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A

VIEW OF SPAIN;

COMPRISING

A DESCRIPTIVE ITINERARY,

OF

EACH PROVINCE,

AND A

GENERAL STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF THE COUNTRY;

INCLUDING

ITS POPULATION, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, AND FINANCES;
ITS GOVERNMENT, CIVIL, AND ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS;
THE STATE OF THE ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LITERATURE;
ITS MANNERS, CUSTOMS, NATURAL HISTORY, &c.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

ALEXANDER DE LABORDE.

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ACCOUNT

OF

SPAIN.

OLD CASTILE.

Old Castile is completely enclosed within the provinces of Aragon, New Castile, Estremadura, the kingdom of Leon, the Asturias, Biscay, and Navarre: it forms an irregular triangle, of which the middle is to the east towards Aragon; of the two western points, the one advances to Estremadura, the other to the Asturias*. To the east, Old Castile is bounded

* From north to south it is twenty-four leagues in length towards the middle point, thirty-four at the middle, and fifty-nine from one extremity of the triangle to the other: its breadth from east to west is forty-three leagues; fifty-one leagues from its angle at the middle point towards the Asturias; and fifty-three leagues to the point towards Estremadura.

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by Aragon, to the south by New Castile and Estremadura, to the west by the kingdom of Leon; to the north and north-west by the Asturias; on the north and north-east it is bordered by Navarre. The capital of Old Castile is Burgos; of the several districts and cantons into which it is divided Liebana and Rioja more particularly deserve notice; the former, a territory ten leagues in length and four in breadth, is in general bare and mountainous; it contains however the five vallies of Villorigo, Valdeprado, Vahebaro, Cereceda, and Polanes. Rioja is a tongue of land, ten leagues in length from north to south, and seven in breadth from east to west; it lies on the confines of Biscay, which forms its northern boundary; to the east, south, and west, it is environed by Old Castile; the river Ebro separates it from Navarre, and it is divided by the river Eiragua into the upper and lower districts; it is encircled by mountains, which afford a shelter from the wind; on the east and south it is invested by the lofty ridges of Cebollera, of San Lorenzo, and Occa; in some favored situations the plains are cultivated and fruitful.

Old Castile presents an aspect alternately rugged and smooth, barren and fertile; of its mountains, the most remarkable are those of Molina, a particular account of which is given in the description of New Castile; the mountains

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tains of Santander, called also the mountains of Burgos, which extend north and south from Old Castile to the Bay of Biscay; the mountains of Reynora, evidently branches of the Santander mountains, which run from north to south towards Burgos; the Sierra D'Atienza, originating in the south-east point of Old Castile, and extending to the eastern border of Aragon and towards the southern limits of Old Castile; the Sierra Piquera, which is nearly in the centre of Old Castile, but a little inclined to the east, where it joins the Sierra D'Urbion, of which it appears to be a dependant. The Sierra de Gogollos rises in the heart of Old Castile, from whence it reaches to Rioja. The Sierra D'Urbion, to the east of Old Castile, stretches towards the southern point of Alava, invests the borders of Navarre, and extends to Aragon and Catalonia; dividing from the Sierra D'Occa, it runs across Biviesca, intersects Calatayud and Daroca, in Aragon, and finally terminating in Catalonia, on the shores of the Mediterranean, receives a new name from the adjacent city of Tortosa. The Sierra D'Occa, which occupy the northern part of Old Castile, extend to the kingdom of Leon, across the breadth of that point and Rioja, to the limits of Biscay, and divide Old Castile from the Asturias. These mountains are a ramification of that stupendous Pyrenean ridge which runs

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along Galicia, and reaches to the ocean; from these the Sierra D'Occa break away towards the source of the Ebro, and unite with other branches, which extend to the two Castiles, the kingdoms of Leon, Aragon, and Catalonia. To the Romans, this mountainous tract was known by the appellation of the Mons Idubea. Under the shelter of these lofty ridges are found many fruitful vallies: those of Liebana have been already mentioned, nor are those of Paz and Mena less eminently distinguished.

The valley of Paz, watered by the river from whence it has received its name, lies at the foot of the mountain Santander, contains three towns, and is five leagues in extent. Its inhabitants, who are denominated Paziegos, subsist chiefly by the occupation of hawkers and pedlars, and spread themselves and their various commodities through the greater part of Spain. The valley of Mena, in the Baston of Laredo, a territory of the province of Burgos, is at a distance of fifteen miles from the sea; it is four leagues in length, and three in breadth, is watered by four rivers and several streams, and contains sixty-seven villages. Mena is subdivided into the four subordinate vallies of Mena, Orduate, Ayega, and Angulo. Its natives, who claim their descent from the ancient Cantabri, are principally occupied with the labours of agriculture.

Old

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Old Castile is watered by several rivers, the Xalon, the Monubles, the Queiles, the Duero, the Carion, the Tormes, the Cayar, the Ebro, the Alhama, the Arevadillo, the Araja, the Lagtera, the Iregua or Eiregua, the Tiron, the Pizuerga, the Zidacos, the Arlanzon, the Arlanza, the Henarez, the Carnoca, the Valtaia, the Abion, the Uzero, the Castillo, the Dueraton, the Burejo, the Nazerilla, the Ora, the Paz, the Tueva, the Oja, &c.

The principal places are Burgos, (the capital of the province and an archbishop's see,) the seven episcopal cities of Osma, Siguenza, Avila, Valladolid, Segovia, Calahorra, and Soria; the the towns of Logrono, Santo Domingo, de la Calzada, Granou, Acofra; of these the three last are in Rioja.

Old Castile is also supplied with three cathedral chapters, twenty-five collegiate chapters, three establishments of the military order, four thousand five hundred and fifty-five parishes, three hundred and ninety-religious houses, a superior military government, a captain-general, six subordinate military governments, six provincial intendants or comptrollers, a royal chancery, and three universities.

Old Castile was the cradle of the Castilian monarchy, from whence it proceeded by gradual advances till finally it extended to every part of Spain. At the commencement of the tenth

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century Judges or rulers were established, by popular authority, for the administration of civil and domestic policy. In process of time, one supreme governor was elected by the same authority, in the person of Fernando Gonzalez, who had been originally a judge, and was now invested with the title of count, and sovereign power. Sancho the First, descended from the French house of Navarre, who had become count of Castile by his marriage with Nuna Mayor, the great granddaughter of Fernando Gonzalez, was, in 1028, proclaimed the first king of Castile. His descendants succeeded to the kingdoms of Leon, Aragon, Valencia, and the principality of Catalonia. To these, subsequent events annexed the province of Biscay, and a portion of the kingdom of Navarre; the rights of conquest prevailed over the Moorish kingdoms of Tolido and Murcia, of Seville, Cordova, and Grenada; and thus, after a long series of warfare, were re-united all the isolated members of the Spanish monarchy. Portugal alone preserved its independence, that province having, in 1092, been alienated by Alphonso the First, in favor of his daughter Theresa, on her marriage with a prince of Burgundy, to whose brother he had given his eldest daughter Uraca, the heiress of his dominions.

The counts, and after them, the kings of the house of Navarre, had established their court in

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in Old Castile, and continued, notwithstanding the extension of their empire, to confine to that province the honors and privileges of the royal residence. The last sovereigns of the house of Burgundy, whose dynasty ended in 1555, resided alternately at Burgos and Toledo, of which the former is in Old Castile, the latter in the New. Charles the First, better known by the appellation of the emperor Charles the Fifth, who commenced his reign during the life of his mother, queen Joanna, having conceived a partiality for the situation of Madrid, transferred to it his court, and from that period the deserted province of Old Castile was no longer animated by the presence of its kings.

*An Itinerary from the Frontiers of Navarre, below Valtierra, to those of New Castile, from mount Atienza, comprehending a Distance of twenty-three leagues and a half *.*

The frontiers of Navarre, between Valtierra and Agreda.

Agreda, (a town)	2 leagues.
Hinojoso, (a village)	4
Almeriz, (a ruinous town)	3
Almazan, (a small town)	3
N———, (a village)	2
Paredes, (a village)	3½
Barcaona, (a village)	3
Mount Atienza, the barrier of the two Castiles,	3

* The route from Pampeluna to Madrid. See the general map.

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The line of demarcation between Navarre and Old Castile, is on the mountains two leagues beyond Valtierra; having passed this boundary, you arrive in two hours at Agreda, the first town in Old Castile.

Agreda is a small ill-built town, though surrounded by a pretty good wall; it is situated on the borders of Aragon, on the declivity, and at the foot of Mount Cayo, and it is said to have been erected on the ruins of the ancient Graccuris; at present it is the seat of a corregidoral judicature, and is provided with a corregidor for the administration of justice, a parish church, and a nunnery. An abbess of this convent, Mary d'Agreda, who died in 1675, has been long celebrated in the annals of mysticism. Some of her manuscripts are still preserved within the sacred walls; and they were formerly shewn with much formality at the grate of the choir, to the inquisitive traveller and the enraptured devotee. In 1715 the second volume was presented to Philip the Fifth, and was kissed by that prince with much apparent veneration. Notwithstanding these honors, the works of Mary d'Agreda were, in 1697, anathematized, by the authority of the Sorbonne.

On leaving Agreda, you enter on a rugged mountainous tract, composed of rocks and calcareous earth. This stony soil is soon exchanged for a sandy plain, which terminates in a wide

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a wide extended hill, crowned with lofty oaks, On descending from this eminence, you arrive at another plain, where stands the village of Hinojoso, and beyond it, a wood of oak.

Two other plains succeed. The first, immediately opening from the wood, presents alternately an unequal and even surface; though not destitute of culture, it is not embellished by a single tree. The principal object it presents is the small town of Almeriz. Adjacent to this is the second plain, which is of greater extent and beauty, appears more fruitful, and produces both wheat and barley; it leads to Almazan, another small town, on the banks of the Duero, which is under the government of an alcade.

On leaving this place, you ascend a little hill, of a stony and sandy soil, from the summit of which you discover an immense range of hills, which, on a distant view, assume the appearance of one wide expanse of down. Having crossed this uncultivated district, you reach the little village of N———, embosomed in a vale, and, in three hours and a half arrive at Paredes, which is situated in a glen. From thence, crossing a wide, uneven, uncultivated plain, you reach Barcaona, a village bordering on a hill, of an almost pyramidal form. After passing several other acclivities, all equally destitute of culture, you reach the foot of Mount Atienza, which forms the boundary between the two Castiles;

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Castiles; this mountain is covered with oaks and aromatic cistuses; and having traversed it, in three hours, the traveller finds himself in New Castile.

Itinerary from the Frontiers of Alava to Burgos, Valladolid, and the Frontiers of New Castile, at the Port of Guadarrama, (Sixty-one Leagues).*

Limits of Alava.	leagues.
Miranda de Ebro, (town)	½
Mayago, (village)	2
Pancorvo, (village)	½
Santa Maria del Cubo, (village) El Cubo, (village) Bribiesca, (town)	2½
Monasterio, (village)	1½
Quintana, (village)	1
Burgos (town)	3
Quintan Illejo, (village) Burriel, (village) Estepa, (village) Celada, (village)	4
Villacopocho, (village) Valladrido, (village) Venta del Moral, Quintana del Puente, (a small town) Pizuerga, (river and bridge) Torrequemada (town)	8
Magaz (village) Duenas (village)	2

* Road from Bayonne to Burgos, Valladolid, and Madrid. See the general map.

Cabezon,

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Cabezon, (village)	4
Valladolid (town)	2
Puente de Duero, (village)	2
The Duero, (river and bridge)	
Valdestillas, (village)	2
Adaja, (rivulet and bridge)	
Hornillas, (village)	1
Olmedo, (town)	3
Almenara, (village) Monteza, (village) Rapariejos, (village) Montuenga, (village) Martin Munoz, (village)	8
Adanero (village) San-Chidrion (village) Labajos (village) Almarza, (river and bridge) Villacastin (village)	5
Espinar (village)	4
Las Navas de San Antonio	1
Venta de Guadarrama	1
Puerto de Guadarrama	3

Having crossed the long extensive plain beyond Vittoria, the capital of Alava, you enter Old Castile. At the distance of five leagues from Vittoria you reach Miranda d'Ebro, a small town, beautifully situated on the Ebro, over which is built a noble bridge, of eight arches; in contains a large square, embellished with fountains. It is environed by mountains, on whose brow are still visible the remains of a castle; and the ruins of several towers, which once guarded its approach. From the rock on which

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which the castle is built, flows an abundant stream, which is employed in turning several mills in the vicinity; this town was erected into an earldom in the fourteenth century, by Henry the Second, in favor of Don Diego de Zuniga, and is now governed by its alcade.

Departing from Miranda, we immediately discover the mountains of Occa, one of the principal ramifications of the Pyrenees, which stretch across the southern parts of Spain; from hence, with tedious and weary steps, the traveller ascends one of the most elevated mountains, which bears the name of Pancorvo; he soon passes the village of Mayago, which is only marked by penury, and a quarter of an hour after, that of Pancorvo. Having reached the top, he approaches a tremendous pass, formed by two lofty mountains, whose tottering summits are stretched out to meet each other, leaving between them only a narrow space, about twelve feet in breadth and fifty in length. He beholds enormous masses of rock impending over his head, and apparently ready to start from their base, and consign him to destruction. It is impossible to imagine a scene more awfully wild than this spot, which is called Garganta de Pancorvo, or the throat of Pancorvo.

Proceeding on our march along the mountains of Occa, we pass the sorry villages of Santa Maria del Cubo and El Cubo. Four leagues from

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from thence begins the canton of Burena, a delicious country, refreshed and fertilized by brooks and rivulets, among others by the river Occa, which, some leagues lower, falls into the Ebro. Its banks are planted with elms, chesnuts, and several other trees, embellished by luxuriant orchards, and enlivened by villages, whose inhabitants are active and prosperous in the business of agriculture. Proceeding on our way, we advance to Briviesca, which, though small, is the principal town in the canton of Burena. It is only remarkable for the cortes or states-general, which were holden here by king John in 1388, when the title of prince of Asturias was entailed on the eldest sons of the kings of Castile. Briviesca is surrounded by walls, and has four gates which correspond with each other.

In an adjacent valley are two capacious lakes, the waters of which are cold, and supposed to possess mineral properties; they are called indiscriminately the Fountains of Boëcio, and the Lakes of St. Vincent, and St. Castilda; the country people denominate them Pozo blanco and Pozo negro.

Leaving Briviesca, we have to cross a fruitful well-peopled valley; from thence we ascend a mountain, and wind along a delightful dale, which is a league in extent; it produces wheat, and is watered by a stream, whose banks are planted with willows and poplars. Proceeding on

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on our ascent, we pass Monasterio, a village celebrated for the excellence of its cheese; from the summit of the mountain we descry Burgos. Near this spot springs arise, whose waters are said to flow from one side to the ocean, by the river Duero, and on the other to fall into the Mediterranean by the Ebro.

The descent from the mountain leads to a spacious plain, richly cloathed with oaks and cistuses, on whose roots grows the *hypocistus*, diffusing through the air delicious fragrance. Having passed this plain, you take a glimpse of Burgos, which gradually opens on the view, and is at length approached at the distance of six leagues from Briviesca.

BURGOS,

The capital of Old Castile, is of considerable antiquity, and is by some writers identified with the Braum or Bravum of Ptolemy; but its origin has been with more probability referred to the site of another city, called Aura, at no remoter era than the ninth and tenth century. Under the counts and kings of Castile, Burgos long continued to enjoy splendor and pre-eminence. The declension of its prosperity is dated from the epoch when Charles the Fifth transferred the seat of royalty to Madrid. Notwithstanding this degradation, it still claims precedence of all other cities in the two Castiles.

Toledo

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Toledo alone affects competition, and the punctilious contest between these two cities, after a lapse of two centuries, still is, and probably may long continue to be undecided. Meanwhile, they both appear to possess equality of rank, and fully to participate in civil and political immunities.

Situation of Burgos. This city is built on the declivity of a hill, from whence it slopes along the plain to the river Arlanzon, on whose right bank it stands, and whose stream flows close to its walls. It was formerly defended by a castle of considerable strength, erected on the brow of the adjacent hill, of which the vestiges are yet distinctly visible.

Extent. It is a large irregular town, presenting the figure of a cross; it is surrounded by high walls, but is ill arranged; the streets are narrow, crooked, and uneven, yet some of them, particularly that which leads to the metropolitan church, are tolerably handsome. Of the many squares in Burgos there is but one which deserves notice; it is surrounded by a piazza, supported by lofty pillars, over which are built the houses, which exhibit no bad taste. Many of the public walks and squares are embellished with fountains, well supplied with water, and adorned by statues, of which the sculpture is not contemptible. Burgos is approached by several gates; that of Santa Maria, which opens on one of the bridges of the Arlanzon, is a monumental tribute, to commemorate the founders of the Castilian monarchy, and the illustrious men who have contributed to its honor and aggrandizement. Here are the statues of Nuno Rasura and Lain Calvo, who were elected judges or governors in the tenth century; that of Ferdinand Gonzalez, first count of Castile, proclaimed in 923; that of Charles the First, the Cid, and Diego Porcel.

Suburbs.

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Suburbs. The suburb of Burgos, which is divided from it by the Arlanzon, is called de Bega, and is pleasantly situated; it has three freestone bridges on the Arlanzon, is large and well built, and contains several handsome convents and hospitals, and has also a considerable population. It has a beautiful promenade, whose walls are enlivened by the intermixture of delightful gardens, which are constantly refreshed with fountains of living water.

Clergy. Burgos was formerly an episcopal see, which was erected into an archbishopric in 1574. It is a very extensive diocese, comprehending a cathedral chapter, six collegiate chapters, eight archpriests, and six hundred ninety-three parishes; there is a metropolitan chapter, several parochial churches, a large number of convents for both sexes, and several hospitals, one of which, an ample edifice, was founded by Philip the Second, for the relief of such pilgrims as should be either on their way to, or on their return from the shrine of St. James. In the clergy of the metropolitan church are included seventeen dignitaries, thirty canons, twenty-six prebends, and nineteen chaplains. There are eight chapels attached to this church, each of which is provided with its particular clergy for the performance of the sacred functions, but subject to the superintendance and control of some canon or more exalted dignitary. Sixty chaplains are included in this establishment.

Administration, civil and military. It is the ordinary residence of the intendant for the province of Burgos; it has a corregidor, an alcaide, and a determinate number of regidors or governors, who compose the municipality.

Public instruction. A college for the instruction of youth and an academy for the polite arts, are maintained exclusively by the commercial part of the community. In the year 1800 a surgical school was instituted, but, unfortunately for the pupils, the choice of its professors was made with more ardor than discernment.

Edifices.

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Edifices. Among the public edifices of Burgos particular attention is due to the hotel de Ville and the palace of Velasco, which exhibits royal magnificence; nor should praise be withheld from the triumphal arch, erected in honor of Fernando Gonzalez, the first count of Castile. Some of the churches contain paintings and monuments, which are not unworthy of admiration.

St. Paul's church is a noble structure of the gothic cast; its great altar is however of the Corinthian order, and here, in a group of figures as large as life, is a representation of St. Paul's conversion. The chancel contains a marble monument of St. Paul of Santa Maria, who, though born and nurtured in the Jewish faith, in 1390 embraced Christianity, entered the church, became bishop of Burgos, and was admitted to the privy council of John the Second.

The convent of St. Augustin stands in the suburbs, near the gate of Santa Maria; its chapel, though without pretensions to architectural beauty, has acquired both wealth and fame from the possession of a crucifix, to which miraculous powers are attributed. It is a heavy building, of the middle size; its walls are hung with cloth of gold, so changed by the smoke of lamps and incense as scarcely to be distinguished from the dingy hue of sable; the tapestry is loaded with the offerings of religious votaries, the collective tribute of private individuals, distinguished nobles, and munificent kings; some of these gifts are of silver, others of gold, and not a few are enriched with jewels. The front of the altar, the steps, the balustrades, are all of silver; of silver also are the sixty chandeliers, five feet in height, and of proportionate bulk, which are ranged on the ground immediately beneath the altar; of the same precious metal are the chandeliers which stand on the altar, and which are intermixed with silver crowns and crosses, emblazoned with precious stones; eighty silver lamps of magnificent size are suspended from the vaulted roof. On the altar is placed the

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miraculous crucifix, which is an exact outline of the human figure, and is enveloped from the waist to the feet in a kind of petticoat, full plaited, of the finest cloth; it is concealed beneath three curtains, which are made to rise and fall, one over the other, the crucifix being never exposed to view but on particular days, or to satisfy the curiosity of some illustrious personage. On such occasions the exhibition is made with many tedious ceremonies; the curtains are slowly withdrawn, and the whole process bespeaks pompous solemnity. A tradition prevails in the country, that this crucifix was constructed by Nicodemus, and it is the subject of many marvellous legends, which are highly acceptable to vulgar credulity.

The *metropolitan church* is raised from the ground by an ascent of thirty-eight stairs. In the various parts of this edifice we may trace the appropriate differences of style which have characterised the arts in particular ages. It was originally erected at the commencement of the thirteenth century by Ferdinand the Third; the chancel was repaired in 1550; the altar was constructed at the epoch when the arts revived in Spain.

The front view of this church presents a fine specimen of gothic architecture. It is embellished with towers, statues, columns, and other fanciful ornamental appendages, which are executed with exquisite delicacy and neatness. The church is of immense extent; divine worship is performed in it, in eight chapels at once, without occasioning confusion or inconvenience: here also the gothic style prevails, as in the choir, which is crowded with statues, bas-reliefs, all equally elaborate and equally destitute of elegance and taste. The great altar is adorned with saracenic columns, and is full of pieces in bas relief; they are in general well executed, and were produced by the chisels of Martin and Roderigo del Aja, two sculptors, whose merits have not been sufficiently noticed. In some of these chapels

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pels are preserved precious relics of the arts. In the constable's chapel are two magnificent monuments of Pierre Hernandez de Velasco, constable of Castile, and his wife Mencia Lopez de Mendoza. In the sacristy of the same chapel is a beautiful picture of Mary Magdalen, attributed by some to Raphael, and by others to Leonardo da Vinci. The chapel of Los Remedios contains a fine painting of the crucifixion, by Matthew Cerezo, a native of Burgos, who died in 1675. In the chapel of the Presentation is an admirable painting, large as life, of the Virgin; she appears seated, placing one hand on the infant Jesus, who stands beside the cradle, on a stone covered with yellow cloth, and holding in the other hand a swath-band, which is transparent; two angels looking down, seem prepared to place a crown on the infant's head; this piece is by Michel Angelo Buonarotti; the body of this chapel is large, handsome, and in a good style of architecture. Adjoining the church is a magnificent cloister, completely gothic, and decorated with the statues of prophets, saints, heroes, and heroines, all executed with as much taste as neatness. Contiguous to the cloister is the old sacristy, which contains the portraits of all the prelates who have occupied the see of Burgos; a collection that could not fail to be interesting to the observer, if they were really accurate likenesses of their originals.

Commerce. Burgos was once a flourishing city, and continued in the full tide of prosperity from the end of the fifteenth to the commencement of the seventeenth century: it was then the centre of an extensive commerce, and the residence of foreign merchants; it possessed considerable manufactures, and its crowded fairs displayed industry, riches, and prosperity; at that period it was the entrepot of all the trade which was carried on from the interior of Spain with several ports of the ocean, such as Santander, Laredo, and Bilboa. The famous Segovian

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cloth was here received, and expedited to every quarter of Europe. The commencement of the seventeenth century is the epoch from which Burgos dates the declension of its commerce, the decay of its manufactures, and the ruin of its inhabitants, with all the concomitant evils of sloth, indigence, and depopulation.

Manufactures. Of these there scarcely exists a vestige. There is a cloth manufactory, which affords employment to forty persons; there are about twelve manufacturers of woollen coverlids in the hospital for monks, where the same article is fabricated, as are burats or coarse stuffs, and flannels; the fine woollen stockings made here, called bas d'etame, are highly esteemed. At present the trade of Burgos is almost negative; it is, however, still the medium by which most of the woollen cloths of Old Castile are exported; a traffic from which it draws considerable profit.

Population. In its days of splendor, Burgos contained thirty five or forty thousand inhabitants, exclusive of foreigners, of whom there was always a considerable number; its population is now reduced to eight or nine thousand souls. Burgos is a most gloomy place, destitute of amusements, it affords little society, and its cold humid climate is ill calculated to render it a salubrious residence. It was the birth-place of Matthew Cerezzo, a good painter, who died in 1675. He was of the school of Carreno, and excelled in the beauty and stability of his colours.

THE ENVIRONS OF BURGOS.

The Carthusian convent of Miraflores is half a league south-east of Burgos. The church and cloister were erected in the fifteenth century, under three successive architects, John of Cologne, Ferninand Mutienzo, and Simeon the son of John.

In

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In the chancel of this church are two magnificient tombs, executed from the plans of the architect Gil, the father of Siloe; the one stands on the left of the altar, and incloses the ashes of John the second; the other on the right side marks the sepulchre of his son, the infant don John; the first forms an octagonal body, on which a couch supports the statue of king John, crowned and sceptered, and that of his queen, who wears the crown on her head, and holds a book in her hand; around the couch appear thirteen smaller figures, four of which represent the evangelists, statues of saints, and allegorical figures of the virtues; many other sculptural decorations are disposed in different parts of the monument. The second tomb supports the statue of a child kneeling in an attitude of devotion; both these monuments display beauty and magnificence, but the decorations are too complicated not to fatigue the spectator.

The principal altar is gothic, and filled with statues and bas-reliefs, neatly executed; a crucifix with the Holy Virgin and St. John occupies the middle compartment; two good pictures by Peter Antanasio, representing the dream, and the death of St. Joseph, fill the two sides.

In the sacristy of this church is a fine painting by Diego de Leyva, of the Holy Virgin giving a chaplet to St. Bruno.

The lay sides of the choir are enriched with

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five ancient paintings, representing the life and martyrdom of John the Baptist; they are finely finished, the colours are well preserved, the figures full of expression.

The chapter room contains fourteen large pictures, representing the life of St. Bruno; they are by Diego de Leyva, and are remarkable for the beauty and harmony of the colours.

On going from Burgos you again see the river Arlanzon, which scarcely escapes from view till we reach Villadrido. In our progress through a cultivated tract, producing wheat, we have to pass the villages of Quintanillas, Burriel, Estepar, and Celada, which is four leagues from Burgos. Several other villages are discovered, more or less distant from the river; we pass successively the villages of Villazapoque, Villadrido, and Venta del Moral, which is at the confluence of the rivers Arlanza, and Arlanzon. Having climbed two steep acclivities, beneath which flows the Pizuerga, you discover Quintana de la Puente, a small town situated on that river, which takes its name from a noble bridge of stone, of eighteen arches. You arrive at length at Torrequemada, a small town eight leagues from Celada, where you again cross the Pizuerga over a bridge supported by twenty-six arcades; the parochial church of this town is in the gothic style, and affords no bad specimen of architecture.

Almost

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Almost the whole of this road runs on a naked plain, where neither tree, bush, nor shrub is visible; straw, vine-branches, indigenous aromatic plants, and dried mud, are used in the kitchens and ovens for the purposes of fuel; the kitchen hearth is a sort of stove, placed in the middle of the room, without a flue, and often without any aperture; these stoves are called *glorias*; they are encircled by a range of benches, where the inmates of the dwelling sit to warm themselves. In this excursion you pass the village of Magaz, beyond which the Carrion forms a junction with the Arlanzon.

Pursuing our track over the same plain, we arrive at the foot of a calcareous hill, to the left of which appears San Lidro, a large Benedictine monastery; on ascending the eminence, we reach Duenas, which, though a dull dirty village, is pleasantly situated; the vine flourishes in this vicinity, and it is usual to keep wine in cavities beneath the hill, which have the appearance of grottoes, and perfectly supply the place of other cellars; the banks of the neighbouring streams are embellished with meadows. According to Gorrop, Duenas is the Eldana which Ptolemy places among the Vaccei in his Hispania Tarraconensis: there is here a parish church and a convent of the Augustin order.

Descending from the hill, you advance on a plain, the soil of which is siliceous; at the

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distance of four leagues is Cabezon, a village surrounded with vines, which produce a red wine, very light. You still pursue the same plain, which is either wholly rude or ill cultivated. In the space of two hours, you enter a noble avenue, half a league in length, which leads to Valladolid.

VALLADOLID.

Valladolid, called in Latin Vallisoletum, the Pincium of the ancients, is the second city in Old Castile. It was the native place of Philip the Second, who sometimes made it the seat of his court. It is built between the rivers Esgueva and Pizuerga, in a large plain, surrounded by hills flattened at their summit, composed partly of gypsum and partly of calcareous strata.

Clergy. Valladolid had originally an abbey and a collegiate chapter, which at the end of the sixteenth century were erected into a bishopric and a cathedral chapter. In this diocese are included the cathedral chapter of Valladolid, the collegiate chapter of Medina del Campo, three arch priests, and a hundred and thirty-two parishes. The cathedral chapter is composed of seven dignitaries, nineteen canons, three prebends, and twelve sub-prebends, who, with twenty-four chaplains, perform the duties of the church.

This city has fifteen parochial churches, five chapels of ease, forty-six convents for both sexes, nine chapels appended to religious fraternities, five oratories, a foundation hospital, several other hospitals, the greater part of which are in decay, and seven colleges, of which the principal is St.

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St. Croix; two of them are destined exclusively for English and Scotch residents, the others belong to religious orders.

In this place is established one of the two chancery courts of Spain; it is the residence of an intendant for the province of Valladolid. It has a corregidor, an alcaide, a determinate number of regidors (who compose the municipal body,) an university, a college for the instruction of youth, an academy for geography, a mathematical school, an academy for writing, and a patriotic society.

Situation. Extent. The streets of Valladolid are ill paved, and very dirty. Many of its edifices are approached by gates of a noble structure, handsome fronts, and courts embellished with piazzas, but the greater part of them are either unfinished or in ruins. There are several public walks, of which the two chief are the Campo Grande, at one of the extremities of the town, and the Plaza Major, situated in the centre; the former presents an irregular figure, and of such an immense extent, that thirteen churches are included in its area; it is planted with trees, but the irregularity of the adjacent buildings is offensive to the eye. The Plaza Major, which is in the style of the Plaza Major at Madrid, is equally spacious, and surrounded by three rows of balconies, where it is computed that twenty thousand people may sit at their ease; it is embellished with piazzas, which are supported by four hundred large columns, (each composed of a single block of marble,) and by a correspondent number of pilasters: it is an exhibition of magnificence, without elegance or taste. At a short distance from this spot is the Ochavo, an octagonal area, into which six large streets open at regular distances.

Bridges. Over the Esgueva, which runs through this city, are fourteen bridges, which facilitate the communication of the streets. A bridge of ten arches, thrown over the Eresma, is more substantial than beautiful; it was narrow, but has been enlarged by the addition of another bridge.

Gates.

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Gates. Here are six gates. That of Carme, which is one of the principal, is modern, but appears little worthy of notice; it is surmounted by a balustrade and a statue of Charles the Third, which is here out of place.

Promenades. There are two promenades without the city, and one within its walls, called the Prado de la Magdalena, which is situated on an arm of the Esgueva, and planted here and there with trees. The other two, known by the names of Espolejo Viejo and Espoleto Nuevo, are on the banks of the Pizuerga, and approach each other; these promenades are principally for carriages: seats are found in them, but no trees. New promenades have been formed near the town, which are not completed.

Public edifices. There are churches in Valladolid, which contain valuable monuments of the arts.

The *church of Las Augustias*, which has a double front of four Corinthian columns each, contains a statue of the Virgin des Douleurs, full of expression, executed by Hernandez, and a group, representing the Virgin with Christ dead in her arms, and the two thieves. This piece possesses equal merit with the former; the Virgin and Christ are by Hernandez, the thieves by Juni.

The *cloister of San Benito* is a fine building, surrounded by a double row of galleries, one over the other, adorned with double columns, which in the upper cloister are of the Ionic, and in the lower of the Doric order. The most remarkable object in the church is its chief altar; the ornaments, which are from Alphonso Berruguete, exhibit a capricious taste: there is a tabernacle of silver, the steps leading to it are gilt. The tabernacle weighs 252 marks of silver *, and the steps 280 pounds of brass; the expence of the whole amounted to 103,555 reals, or about £900 sterling.

In the church of the Carmelites there is a statue of our Lord on Mount Carmel, the expression of which is so

* A mark is eight ounces.

spirited,

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spirited, that it seems to breathe of life; the attitude and drapery are of exquisite beauty. This piece is by Hernandez.

The *Cathedral*, which was undertaken at the expence of Philip the Second, from the plans of John Herrera, was left unfinished at his death. According to the original design, it should be four hundred feet in length and 240 in breadth: in its present state it appears but half built. The principal front measures sixty feet in height to the cornice, and sixty feet beyond it; it has a gate, adorned with four double Doric columns; parallel with it is a fine belfry, rising in the form of a tower, to the height of this front, and from thence terminating in pyramids, which ascend to an elevation of sixty feet. The interior decoration of this church is Corinthian. There is a silver tabernacle of 282 marks in weight, which is divided into three compartments, and has the usual adjuncts of columns, statues, and bas-reliefs; it was finished in 1590.

St. Paul's church, which belongs to the Dominicans, has a gothic front, ornamented with various figures of different dimensions, which are well executed, but too numerous. Within the entrance of the church is a fine piece of sculpture, representing a dead Christ; it has an exquisite expression, and is by Gregory Hernandez. The chancel contains a monument, partly marble and partly bronze; the design and execution of which are equally good; the bronze statues of Francis Sandoval, duke of Lerma, and of his duchess, are by Pompey Leoni. On the wall is represented an apparition of Jesus Christ to a nun of the Dominican order, by Lazarus Baldi. The principal altar is admirably executed by John Herrera; it is embellished with several noble pictures, by Barthelemi Cardenaz, of the birth of Christ, the adoration of the wise men, Christ calling his disciples, and the conversion of St. Paul. The chancel is decorated with paintings, among which we may distinguish a head of St. Paul by John Abril, a Virgin with the child Jesus,

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Jesus, from Sassoferato. Adjoining the church is a cloister hung with paintings, from Cardenas; there is also a fine picture of the Virgin of Rosaria and St. Dominic, by Vincent Carducio. In the chapel annexed to St. Gregory's college is a marble monument of Alonzo de Burgos, count of Pernia and bishop of Palencia, from the chisel of Alphonso Berruguete.

Commerce. Valladolid was formerly an opulent town; so early as the sixteenth century it was in possession of the valuable art of printing, and at that period possessed extentensive trade and important manufactures; at present it exhibits a melancholy contrast; its population, which was once proportioned to its extent, is reduced to about four thousand families, or twenty thousand individuals; it is merely the medium through which traffic passes; its manufactures are confined to light stuffs and camblets; it would however be no difficult enterprize to restore Valladolid to its pristine splendor, by completing the canal of Campos.

Celebrated men. Valladolid has produced some celebrated men. Louis Mercado, an eminent physician of the sixteenth century, whose works, in five folio volumes, were published in 1554. Ferdinand Nunes, familiarly called Pincianus, an admirable scholar, his contemporary; he was an adept in Greek, furnished commentaries on Pliny, Seneca, and Pomponius Mela, contributed to the Polyglot bible, and lived to the advanced age of eighty. Gil de Mena and Antony Pereda, two excellent painters of the last age. Mena, a pupil of Vander Hamen, excelled in portraits; he died in 1674.

Climate. Valladolid is esteemed highly salubrious, though often visited by fogs, which come from the Duero, and the stagnant waters of the Esgueva; it produces wine of an excellent quality, and the mulberry has lately been cultivated with success in its vicinity.

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THE ENVIRONS OF VALLADOLID.

At the distance of a league to the north of Valladolid, in the village Fuen-Saldana, is the convent of the Conception, occupied by a community of Franciscan nuns; the principal and the collateral altars of its church are decorated with superb paintings; on the right altar is represented the scourging of St. Francis; on the left is St. Antony raised in air; in this piece the artist has happily delineated the morning dawn beaming on a calm sea; over the principal altar is a picture of the Virgin encircled by angels; the figures appear larger than life; there is in this painting a freshness in the tints, a variety in the shades, a richness of invention, a correctness of design, an indescribable beauty and delicacy, which render it precious to the amateur; the St. Francis, the St. Antony, and the Virgin, are all by Rubens, but in the last piece the artist appears to have surpassed himself.

The convent of the Jeronimites is half a league south of Valladolid, near the banks of the Pizuerga; on your approach to this place you pass over a noble bridge of eight arches, three hundred and seventeen feet in length; in the church belonging to this monastery there is nothing remarkable, but in the sacristy there is an altar, which painting and sculpture have conspired to render precious; the cloister is also worthy

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worthy of notice; it is a square, surrounded by two rows of galleries, one over the other, which open on the street by five pointed arches supported on pilasters, which in the first compartment are of the Doric, on the second of the Ionic order; the architecture is by Herrera, and splendidly embellished with the paintings of Barthelemy Vicente. On leaving Valladolid you enter on a sandy road, which has been cut through a wood of lofty pines, and leads to the village of Puente Duero; beyond it is a large stone bridge constructed over the Duero. Having reached the village Valdestillas, you pass the rivulet Adaja, and from thence proceed to Hornillos, a village five leagues from Valladolid, and from thence again pass, by two bridges, the Adaja; the banks of this river present a beautiful canopy of verdure, and the adjacent country is richly cultivated.

From hence we proceed to a district which bears the marks of careful culture, and arrive at Olmedo, a small town situated on an eminence in front of an extensive plain; it was formerly surrounded by walls, some remains of which are still visible; has seven parochial churches, and as many religious houses. The principal altar of St. Mary's church is adorned with good paintings. The population of this place was once considerable, but is now reduced to two thousand inhabitants, who carry on no other

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other traffic than what is derived from their brick-kilns. It is under the administration of a corregidor.

Leaving Olmedo, we arrive progressively at the villages of Almenara, Rapariegos, and Montuenga; further on is the town of Martin Munoz, the country of Diego Espinosa, who flourished under Philip the Second, and was president of the council of Castile; his tomb is shewn in the parochial church, and is a good specimen of Castilian sculpture.

We next reach the village of Adanero, and beyond it, having crossed a wood of pines, pursue our track along a wild, rude, stony plain, the extremities of which present a few fields of wheat, rye, and barley; in some parts it is watered by the river Almarza, whose wooded banks are perceived for a considerable distance.

On reaching the village of San Chidrian, and Labajos, this plain assumes a more agreeable aspect; its soil is no longer rocky, but a fine black loam; we cross the Almarza on a stone bridge, solely constructed under the superintendance of Mak de Vierna; its banks are lined with elms and poplars, and the adjoining country produces abundance of barley, wheat, and rye. Continuing our route, we arrive at the village of Villacastin, five leagues from Martin Munoz, the parochial church of which is in the Gothic

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Gothic style. On the front are two good statues of the Annunciation and St. Sebastian. Having passed the village of Espinar, you enter a plain called las Navas de San Antonio, a dreary track of land, a league in extent, which is uniformly a rude desolate waste.

From hence we approach the mountain of Guadarrama, which separates the two Castiles. Formerly this pass was steep, difficult, and dangerous, till, by the care of Ferdinand the Sixth, a road was formed, commencing at the village of Espinar, which renders the ascent perfectly safe and pleasant.

At the foot of the mountain stands the Venta de Guadarrama, an inn erected for the accommodation of the public, by the community of Espinar.

At the summit of this mountain, which is called the Puerto de Guadarrama, we discover a marble monument to the memory of Ferdinand the Sixth, representing a lion, resting on a column, which has the following inscription :—

FERDINANDVS VI.
PATER PATRIAE
VIAM UTRIQUE CASTELLAE
SVPERATIS MONTIBUS
FECIT
ANNO SALVTIS MDCCXLIX.
REGNI SVI IV.

From this spot the traveller beholds, at a single glance, the whole range of country included

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cluded in the two provinces of Old and New Castile. Eminences and inequalities, and even hills, disappear. The whole forms but one vast plain, a wide expanse, whose extent is interminable to the eye. It is however easy to perceive that Old Castile stands on higher ground than its sister province. On the frontier of New Castile is established a toll for the preservation of the road.

Itinerary from Granja and St. Ildefonso, to Segovia, and from thence to Cuellar and Tudela, comprehending a Distance of Nineteen Leagues and a Half.*

	leagues.
Granja and Ildefonso, (royal residence)	
Valsin, (river and bridge)	
Pellejeros, (village)	1
Segovia, (town)	1
Zamarramala, (village)	½
Escarbojoso, (village)	2½
Navalmanzano, (village)	3
Piron (river and bridge)	1
Sancho Nuno, (village)	1½
Cuellar, (small town)	2
El Henar, (hermitage)	1
La Villora, (village) / Monte Major, (village)	3
Duero, (river and bridge) / Tudela de Duero, (small town)	3

* This Tudela must not be mistaken for the episcopal town of that name, in the kingdom of Navarre.

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Leaving Granja and St. Ildefonso we reach the Valsin, a small river, over which a stone bridge is erected; from hence we have to traverse a tract of land irregularly planted with oaks of the smallest size; from the village of Pellejeros the country becomes one wide naked common, without a single tree to refresh the eye; several straggling villages lie scattered along the district, which, owing to perpetual inequalities in the surface, escape from view; in some of them are constructed large sheds or houses for the innumerable flocks of sheep conducted to this spot at the annual shearing. The traveller suddenly plunges between two deep vallies, and in two hours has completed the stage from Granja to Segovia.

SEGOVIA.

The foundation of Segovia has been erroneously attributed to Herculez Egizius; it represents the singular figure of a ship, of which the stern points to the east, the prow to the west; it commands an immense rock, and appears buried between two deep vallies, one of which is to the north, the other to the south; the first is watered by a stream called Clamores, which forms a junction with the Eresma, the last by the Eresma, on which are five handsome bridges. This river, whose banks are clothed with wood, formerly bore the name of Areva, from

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from whence the appellation of Arevaci descended to the inhabitants of those vallies.

Extent. This city is surrounded with walls. A range of towers are planted, at regular distances, on its ramparts. The number of houses has been estimated at five thousand, but the population does not exceed ten thousand souls. The streets are almost all narrow and crooked, and irregularly paved. The four suburbs are on more even ground, and contain several manufactories.

Clergy. Segovia is the seat of a bishop, the suffragan of the archbishop of Toledo, whose diocese includes the cathedral chapter of Segovia, the collegiate chapter of St. Ildefonso, and four hundred and thirty-eight parishes. The cathedral chapter is composed of eight dignities, thirty-seven canons, seven prebends, and nineteen sub-prebends; exclusive of these, twenty-three chaplains are attached to this church. In Segovia are reckoned twenty-four parishes, a chapel of ease, and twenty-one convents for both sexes.

Administration. Segovia is the residence of the intendant of that particular district, which assumes its name, and is under the superintendance of a corregidor, an alcade, and a determinate number of regidors.

Public Instruction. Here is a statistical society, the members of which assume the title of 'friends of the country;' and a military school, destined for young engineers, who are instructed in drawing, natural philosophy, chemistry, the mathematics, and the elements of fortification.

Commerce. Segovia was once a town of traffic and opulence, eminently distinguished for its cloth and woollen manufactures. In 1570 its wealth was displayed in a series of magnificent fêtes in honor of queen Anne of Austria, which not only evince in what estimation the useful arts were then held, but prove to what considerable extent they were cultivated. The inhabitants were formed into separate companies, or as they were called, cadrilles, of

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goldsmiths, jewellers, embroiderers, sculptors, manufacturers of linen, stuffs, cloths, corders, and dyers.

Manufactures. It is calculated that forty-four thousand one hundred quintals of wool were consumed in the looms of this town, and that thirty-four thousand one hundred and ninety-nine persons were employed by them.

From the commencement of the seventeenth century the manufactures of Segovia betrayed symptoms of decay; the introduction of foreign woollen cloths contributed, among many other causes, to accelerate their ruin. At so early a period as 1629, the merchant complained that there was every year a reduction in the fabrication of cloth, to the amount of five thousand five hundred pieces; and that there resulted from this deficiency an annual loss of 2,424,818 ducats and 2 reals, or about £274,000 sterling. In the eighteenth century it appeared, from the observations of the Economical Society before mentioned, that the fabrication of stuffs and cloths employed but one hundred and twenty looms, in which only four thousand three hundred and eighteen quintals of washed wool were consumed.

About forty years ago these manufactures began to revive, the looms were multiplied, and the consumption of wool considerably augmented. A single individual, Don Lorenzo Urtiz, has for some years accelerated their progress. In 1790 there was an addition of sixty-three looms, which employed eight or nine hundred quintals of wool, and afforded occupation to two thousand four hundred manufacturers. This city has still a manufactory of delf-ware, of little importance.

Public Edifices. The Mint. Formerly gold and silver were coined at Segovia, at present the Mint produces only copper. The Mint is a handsome edifice, it was constructed in the fifteenth century by Henry the Fourth, and in part re-edified by Philip the Second. The operations of the Mint are carried on by means of hydraulic engines, which receive their water from the Eresma.

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In the *convent of the Capuchins* there is a subterraneous chapel, in which is the family vault of the count of Cobadillos. There are here eight pictures by John Carreno.

In the cloister belonging to the *convent of the Carmelites* are several paintings by Christopher Gonzalez; in particular there is a St. Thomas and a St. John, which possess merit.

The front of the *Town-house* is in two compartments, with simple doric pilasters, arranged in double rows; on each side stands a tower supported on a piazza of ten columns.

The *church of the Jeronimites of Parral* is situated on the other side of the Eresma; it is remarkable for having been the sepulchre of Pacheco, marquis of Villena, and several nobles of his illustrious house, whose tombs are encased with copper, with figures in bas relief; there are also two marble monuments, one to the memory of the celebrated John Pacheco, and the other to Maria Porto Carrero, his wife.

The *Cathedral church* presents a mixture of gothic and and Grecian architecture; though constructed in the sixteenth century, its ornaments belong almost exclusively to the former character. The principal altar is marble. In the middle there is a silver statue of the Virgin, presented to it by Henry the Fourth, which is adorned with the sculpture of Manuel Pacheco. Other altars and chapels possess their appropriate beauties. The chapel of St. Peter displays a series of bas reliefs, which relate to the history of that apostle. There is also a beautiful bust of Christ. Over the altar of St. James are two pictures, attributed to John Pantoja de la Cruz, of the martyrdom and the calling of the disciples; that adjoining the collateral door is remarkable for a piece in demi relief, representing the taking down of the cross, in which the numerous figures are nearly as large as life. In every part of this church majesty and simplicity are apparent.

The *Alcazar*, which was formerly the residence of the Castilian kings, bears the character of venerable antiquity.

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The exterior and interior of the edifice appear of the same date; but the decorations are evidently to be traced to less remote eras. The principal court and the staircase were constructed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It was in this palace that Alphonso the Wise divided his hours between the cares of royalty and the studies of philosophy. His astronomical tables were composed under this roof. Here are few relics of the arts; but in one of the chapels there is a fine painting of the Adoration of the Wise Men, by Barthelemy Carducio, The spacious apartments are fretted with mosaic work, which is still fresh. One of the walls presents a curious historical series of statues, including all the ancient monarchs of Oviedo, Leon, and Castile, from Froila the First, who reigned in 760, to queen Joanna, who died in 1555; after whom commenced the Austrian dynasty. To these is added the statue of Fernando Gonzalez, first count of Castile, and the illustrious warrior Roderigo Diaz, so renowned in history and romance as the Cid Campeador. These statues, which are fifty-two in number, are of painted wood, and are each distinguished by an appropriate inscription.

Antiquities. The noblest monument of Segovia is an aqueduct, the origin of which has been referred, by Colminares and other Spaniards, to the most remote antiquity. According to them it was constructed by the same architects who had built the Egyptian temple of Serapis. There can be no doubt that this useful work originated with the Romans, but at what period, and by whose authority, whether that of Licinius, Larcius, or Trajan, is uncertain. The materials are of rough freestone. Few monuments of antiquity have so well resisted the encroachments of time, or so happily united substantial solidity with dignified magnificence. It commences at a large stone bason, (about fifty paces from the town,) from whence it receives the water, which it conveys through an open canal towards the south. At its origin the fabric is erected on a long range of seventy-five arches, of which the first is fourteen

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fourteen feet six inches in height; the last, which is at the convent of St. Francisco, is thirty-three feet six inches. At this point begins a double row of arches, supported one over the other, which run in the direction of east and west, and cross the valley and the place of Azoquejo; of these the greatest elevation is eighty feet ten inches. The whole range comprehends a hundred and fifty-nine arches, supported on pilasters, most of which measure six feet eleven inches in the front surface, and nine feet four inches on the interior side. The aqueduct terminates at the Alcazar, after having distributed the greater part of the water through different quarters of the town. In modern times this noble work of Roman architecture has been disfigured by the erection of several houses on its pilasters, a disposition highly injurious to the majesty of the original edifice. It is built of square stones, which are placed one on the other without any appearance of cement.

Celebrated men. Segovia was the native place of Alphonso de Ledesma, a good poet, who flourished at the commencement of the last century; of Dominico Soto, the son of a gardener, who published an Essay de Justitia et Jure, two books De Naturâ et Gratiâ, and Commentaries on St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. At Segovia also was born the jesuit Francis Ribera, who died at Salamanca in 1591, well known for the erudition and acumen displayed in his Commentaries on the minor prophets.

On leaving Segovia we find the road more even, and soon advance to a treeless plain, which, after an extent of six leagues, is abruptly terminated by the neighbouring eminences. Having passed the villages of Zamarramela and Escarbojoso, you discover Navalmanzano, which is six leagues from Segovia. In about an hour

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you reach the little river Piron, over which is a stone bridge. You traverse a wood of pines, and advance through similar plantations to the village of Sancho Nuno, a league and a half from Navalmanzano, situated in a country producing flax and hemp in abundance. You approach another wood of pines, two leagues in extent, which leads to Cuellar, about seven miles from Sancho Nuno.

Cuellar is a small town which bears the title of marquisate; it stands on the side of a high hill, on whose summit stands an old castle, supposed to be the ancient Colenda, so celebrated for its spirited resistance to the Romans: the place being reduced after a siege of nine months, the brave inhabitants were sold as slaves.

Cuellar contains about three thousand persons, but, to judge by its extent and the number of its parishes, it must have been formerly much more populous; it includes ten parishes and six religious houses. Madder is cultivated with success, and several mills are employed in grinding it. A considerable number of persons are occupied in preparing wool for the manufactories of Segovia.

The lords of Cuellar* have preserved in the family

* These lords are the La Cueva, dukes of Albuquerque, marquisses of Cuellar, counts of Ledesma, and Huelma. They are the descendants of Hugh Bertrand, a French

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family palace a variety of rare and curious objects; among others there is a fine collection of ancient armory, including three hundred complete sets of armour, lances, pikes, swords, musquets, standards, colours, military instruments, all of different ages and nations; the same apartment exhibits models of small canons in bronze, which are admirably executed.

At the distance of a league from Cuellar, is the hermitage of our lord of Henar, beyond which are several forests of considerable extent. Having crossed two of those which are most encumbered with foliage, you discover several villages, and beyond Villoria and Monte Major several beautiful meadows; at length from a rising ground you descry the town of Tudela, which stands in a beautiful plain, embosomed by hills, which to the west or north-east present a naked aspect, but on the east and south are skirted with umbrageous woods, intermingled with vines, pines, and fruit trees of different species; it is watered by the Duero, over which is a stone bridge of six arches.

a French nobleman, who espoused, at the end of the fifteenth century, Mary de la Cueva, daughter or grand daughter and heiress of Bertrand de la Cueva, minister and favorite of Henry the Fourth, king of Castile, in whose favor that prince had, in 1464, erected Albuquerque into a duchy. Hugh Bertrand assumed the name and arms of La Cueva, and succeeded to all the estates of that family; he still preserved his own arms, which are purely French, but quartered them with that of La Cueva; they are still worn by the house of Albuquerque; they consist of a chief in azure, with three fleurs de lys in gold.

Tudela

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Tudela is a small town, in which there is nothing worth notice but the parochial church, which has a fine front with three rows of Ionic columns. The principal altar was executed by the labours of Martinez, who was equally a sculptor and an architect; it is supported by triple rows of columns, of which one belongs to the Ionic order, and the other two to the Corinthian. Here are statues of the apostles, the assumption of the Virgin, and six large demi-reliefs, referring to different eras in the life of Christ and the Virgin, which are finely executed.

The territory contiguous to this town is a moist soil, well adapted to the growth of wheat and fruits; it is however principally planted with vines, the wine of which is of a very indifferent quality.

Statistical Remarks respecting Old Castile.

Population. Old Castile was long animated by the presence of its sovereigns, and was then the central spot to which the nation were attracted. Industry was excited by success, manufactures were multiplied, commerce flourished, the population was numerous, and opulence almost universal. Of these advantages, some part remained when the royal residence was divided between Old and New Castile. The patronage of the monarch still produced a sensible effect on the country and the people. But when the court was wholly withdrawn, the province assumed a different aspect; its industry was no longer awakened, the useful

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ful and ornamental arts vanished, and with these all its primeval splendor; the population was suddenly diminished, and in the short space of fifty years the province had lost one half of its former inhabitants.

The existing population is estimated at eleven hundred and ninety thousand one hundred and eighty persons: in these are included

Vicars	3440
Secular priests	5573
Monks	5564
Nuns	3210
Nobles	146,036
Advocates	619
Writers	1246
Students	5760
Domestics	37,183

Agriculture. Old Castile presents a succession of plains, or rather one expanse of down; surrounded by lofty mountains, and occasionally intersected by other mountains of equal elevation, and diversified by hills, eminences, and gentle acclivities.

The soil varies with the district; in some parts, as in the vicinity of Labajos, it is a fine black loam, highly favorable to vegetation; it is frequently rocky, and scarcely susceptible of culture, as in the environs of Valladolid; it sometimes abounds with quartz, and often contains a mixture of sand and stone, as on one side of Cabezon: the whole of that plain is, however, a scene of fertility, and produces in profusion every species of grain, particularly in that space between Rodrigo and Burgos; the harvest is there so luxuriant, that Old Castile appears destined by nature to become the granary of Spain.

Few of these plains are planted with trees, and in some places, particularly between Cabezan and Rodrigo, are not embellished with a single shrub. Even the scanty foliage visible

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visible is almost exclusively confined to the banks of rivers, which are commonly planted with elms, alders, and white poplars. In contemplating these beautiful and spacious plains, which, though copiously supplied with streams, and with all the principles of vegetation, are suffered to remain in unprofitable waste, uncloathed with wood, and unimproved by culture, the traveller is naturally led to charge the Old Castilians with culpable negligence and disgraceful sloth; but it will be found, on enquiry, that it is not sloth, but prejudice, which thus impedes the progress of industry. The Old Castilans labour under two mistakes, which it is difficult to remove from their minds: they are persuaded, that trees attract birds, and thus harbour the creatures most ready to commit depredations on corn and fruits, and, under this impression, maintain an invincible antipathy to plantations. There are some among them sufficiently enlightened to perceive the futility of this objection, but not sufficiently experienced to overcome another opinion, equally fallacious, that no soil is adapted to the growth of trees in which elms are not found to flourish. They have yet to learn, that the nature of the plantation should be determined by the peculiar properties of the soil and climate.

The labours of tillage are performed without much effort in Old Castile. Light ploughs are used, which only turn up the surface of the soil, the seed is carelessly cast into the ground, and then closed over with a superficial covering of earth. It has been usual with travellers, who are commonly more disposed to observe than to reason, to condemn this practice, and to refer its existence to stupidity or to sloth. Had these travellers been well informed on the subject, they would probably have shewn less proneness to censure and reproach. They might have learnt from the husbandman, had they given themselves the trouble to pursue the enquiry, that by using a heavier plough, and by plunging it deeper in the soil, the harvests would not be increased, but diminished.

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diminished. In a great part of this province, water, or a soil saturated with moisture, is found at the depth of two feet from the surface, and consequently the plough is only useful in rooting up weeds. So prevalent is this humidity, that notwithsanding the heat of the climate, and the dryness of the atmosphere, the crops are seldom known to fail. The wheat and barley are of an excellent quality.

It is not only in the plains of New Castile that grain is plentifully produced; many of the vallies between the mountains are equally fertile, as has been already observed in the account of Briviesca and Monasterio.

This province supplies a large quantity of wine, but it is in general light, and neither in strength, colour, nor flavour, to be compared with the vintage of the southern and eastern provinces.

Some particular cantons are equally remarkable for the fertility and variety of their produce. The Burela, which abounds in fruits, and presents a long and beautiful succession of luxuriant orchards, is also thickly planted with elms, alders, poplars, and chesnuts. The Rioxa, another extensive district, is equally rich in corn and wine, (two thirds of which pass into Biscay), has a profusion of garden fruits, and produces hemp and flax.

The cultivation of madder has lately been successfully introduced in Old Castile, and appears likely to become a favourite object of attention with the public. It is chiefly found in the vicinity of Valladolid, Burgos, and Segovia, and is already raised in sufficient quantities to afford employment to more than a hundred mills, which annually furnish seven or eight thousand quintals, principally destined for exportation.

In this province are innumerable flocks of sheep, which winter in the plains, and during summer browse on the mountains; their wool is of the finest quality; the best is produced from the environs of Segovia, the country of Buytrago, some leagues to the east of that town, Avila, &c.

Many

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Many of the lofty mountains yield delicious pasture, which is appropriated to an immense number of cows. It is in the mountains of Burgos that these animals appear in the largest number and the most perfect beauty. Mount Arandillo, which forms a part of them, and is one league to the north of Reynosa, deserves particular notice. It is flattened at its summit, and opens into a wide plain, covered with the most luxuriant pasture. The village which formerly peopled this plain has vanished, but its vestiges are still visible.

Unfortunately this mountainous dairy is turned to little account; it produces excellent butter, and might supply that article to all Spain, which now draws its salt butter from Holland.*

From the preceding observations it will appear, that the productions of Old Castile are neither various, nor, with the exception of corn, abundant. It produces no oil, and the cultivation of hemp and flax is confined to some few districts. The soil is favourable to the growth of fruits, yet are they every where rare; but in the cantons of Rioxa and Burela the cultivation of madder has lately gained ground, and, with proper encouragement, might become an important object. Several cantons overflow with milk, but they furnish no butter to other provinces. Wine is in great abundance, and circulates to an adjacent province. Of corn there is a profusion: a third part of the harvest is sufficient for the subsistence of the natives, and were they provided with any facilities of conveyance, the overplus might be converted into a permanent source of prosperity and wealth. The staple commodity of Old Castile

* The method of preparing salt butter is as easy as it is simple: it is mixed in the proportion of two pounds of fine salt to ten pounds of butter; the whole is then put into a barrel, perfectly clean. To guard against the communication of taste or smell from the wood, it is advisable to employ a double cask, putting the barrels one into the other. In Gallicia and the Asturias cows are equally numerous.

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is wool, which is not only forwarded to the interior of Spain, but exported to foreign countries.

Manufactures. It has been already observed that Old Castile once held the first rank in Spain for the diversity and excellence of its manufactures. The woollen cloths of Avila and Medina del Campo were celebrated, and the Segovian cloth was in request through Europe. We now find this province the last in commerce and the least in manufactures.

Of Burgos and Segovia a sufficient account has already been given: they are evidently in decay, and exhibit only mournful mementos of departed greatness.

In 1789 some English merchants established a calico manufactory at Avila, which in 1792 maintained seven hundred persons.

Paper is fabricated in the Carthusian convent of Paular, but of an inferior quality.

Attention has been lately paid to the manufacture of linen, but this branch of commerce is still in its infancy.

There are several glasshouses; the best are established at Pajarejo and Racuenco.

The processes of tanning are carried on to a considerable extent particularly at Melgar de Fermental, where a manufactory was established in 1771.

Commerce. A comparison has already been drawn between the past and present state of Burgos, Valladolid, and Segovia. It appears that the smaller cities of Rioseco, Aranda de Duero, and Medina del Campo, have fully participated in the reverse of fortune which they have experienced. The population of Rioseco is reduced from seven thousand families to six thousand individuals. The thirteen hundred houses of Duero now contain but two thousand six hundred inhabitants. The commerce of Medina del Campo was of considerable extent; it possessed opulent manufactures, and printing presses of such distinguished eminence, that

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that the names of its printers are yet cited with respect. Commerce was carried on at its fairs, where letters of exchange were often accredited to the amount of a hundred and fifty millions of crowns; it was the entrepot of the cloths and woollens which were exported from Spain, and of the spices and other commodities imported to it from foreign countries. Of all this opulence and splendor there exists but the melancholy remembrance; and the population scarcely amounts to six thousand persons.

Old Castile keeps up some traffic with the neighbouring provinces: it sends paper to New Castile; white glass into Arragon; two thirds of the vintage of Rioxa are transferred to Biscay; the half of the woollen and linen cloth fabricated at Segovia are forwarded to Madrid and some other places in New Castile; hides and leather are expedited to the same province, but all these articles are of little importance.

Old Castile only wants good roads and facilities of communication to render itself the granary of Spain; at present nothing can be more operose and tedious than the exportation of its grain; the only mode of conveyance is on the backs of mules, over roads which, even to those sure-footed animals, are scarcely practicable. Some good roads have lately been made, but they extend only to particular parts, and are totally inadequate to the grand object.

The cross roads are precisely what they were four centuries ago, and are hardly to be passed on horseback. All these difficulties might be obviated by the completion of the canal of Campos.

The passive commerce of Old Castile preponderates over its active commerce, as its importations greatly exceed its exportations. It receives annually four hundred quintals of almonds, fifteen quintals of dry figs, twelve thousand loads of rice, paper, needles, brass nails, silks, oil, seven hundred quintals of flax, twelve thousand of hemp, eight hundred pieces

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pieces of stuff, seven hundred and twenty dozen pair of worsted stockings, saffron, cutlery, salted pilchards, linens, wire, nets, printed callicoes, shoes, iron utensils.

Roads, Inns, Canals. There is in Old Castile one handsome road, which leads from the frontiers of Alava to Puerto de Guadarrama, passes through Miranda de Ebro, Burgos, and Valladolid, and is in fact the grand route from France, beginning with Bayonne and ending at Madrid. All the cross roads of this province are narrow and rocky, sometimes miry, often steep and rugged; they are kept in bad repair, or rather totally neglected, always difficult, often dangerous, and sometimes not only impracticable to carriages, but impassable to horses.

On the grand road from Bayonne to Madrid there are some tolerable inns; in every other part of the province the traveller only meets here and there with a solitary house, some wretched venta or posada, dirty and disgusting beyond description, where, should he even be fortunate enough to have brought his own provisions, he might perhaps vainly look for a fire by which to dress them.

A plan was once formed for constructing a canal to extend from Fontibre, two leagues from Reynosa, to the river Pizuerga, below Valladolid; from thence it was to be conducted to Segovia, where the navigation was to be connected by another canal with the river Duero. This great work was undertaken in the year 1753, under the auspices of Ferdinand the Sixth; excavations had been made through a tract of several miles for this purpose, when, suddenly the labour was suspended, and the whole enterprize abandoned. The design has never been resumed, yet to achieve it would be as easy as its object is important. This work was called the canal of Campos.*

Natural history. The mountains of Old Castile, which are ramifications of the Pyrenees, and secondary mountains,

* See more on this subject in volume the fourth.

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are elongated to the south in Old Castile, and extended to the west towards the Asturias in Galicia. The productions of these mountains are little known. The following observations were rapidly made in the progress of a journey, and can but little develope their history.

There are copper mines near d'Escary, and also near Old Colemar; that which lies at the foot of the mountain Guadarrama is of a copper violet.

The vicinity of Old Colemar contains a bed of jet, and several muriatic pyrites. Jet is also found in copious quantities near the sources of the Manzanarez.

The mountain Arendillo, which forms part of the mountains of Burgos, a league north from Reynosa, is almost entirely composed of calcareous rock. In its centre it exhibits impressions of the large horns of the cornua ammonis and that species of shells commonly called St. James, which are found even in the interior of the rock.

A vein of quartz extends half a league from south to north to Mata, a place within a few steps of the powder magazine which is contiguous to the castle of Granja. This vein is in part transparent, and as fine as rock chrystal; it forms a bed four inches in breadth, which lies between two beds of a darker aspect. Some of its fragments are covered with rock chrystal, exquisitely white and regular.

Another vein of quartz, with a mixture of pyrites, compact and regular in its configuration, is discovered in a deep valley, two leagues from Guadarrama, in view of St. Ildefonso; it intersects the mountain, which is of granite, from one side to the other: the grains of gold are easily distinguishable; the quartz is detached from the rock. This mine has never been exploded.

Several varieties of marble are found in these mountains.

1. A grey-blue marble, from a mountain contiguous to the hermitage of Christ of Caloco, near the road which leads to Old Castile by the Puerto de Guadarrama.

2. A black marble, near the Carthusian convent at Paular,

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lar, in the vicinity of Segovia; it is of a smooth level surface, and susceptible of a beautiful polish.

3. A black marble, veined with white, of which one mountain is wholly composed. This mountain is connected with those of Burgos, and is contiguous to Puerto, which lies between Aspietia and Vidana.

4. Another black marble, veined with white, on mount Arandillo. This is also connected with the mountains of Burgos, in the same direction with the road leading to Reynosa.

On the top of the mountain appears a thick saline lake, from which salt is procured by evaporation, in the proportion of seven pounds of salt to one quintal of water.

Old Castile abounds in mineral springs, some of which are cold, others tepid.

A cold spring is found at Arnedo in Rioxa, two leagues from Calahorra and nine from Alfaco; it rises without the walls of the city, and is not copious.

There is another cold spring near Arabalde, three leagues from Benavento; also near Manganeses, three fourths of a league from Benevento; also in a field contiguous to Villanueva de Azongue, a quarter of a league from Benevento; at Canajales, near the same town; at Bodilla de Rioseco, a league from Villalon; at Briviesca, a town of Burena. These waters are the celebrated lakes, so well known as the Fuente de Boecio, or Lagos de San Vicente, and Lagos de Santa Casilda.

The tepid springs are found

At Gravanos, two leagues from Arnedillo, in the Rioxa.

At Arnedillo, a town of Rioxa: the source rises a quarter of a league from the town, at the foot of the mountain Encineta, and is copious; the water is conveyed into baths, which are fitted up for public accommodation: it is employed both in drinking and bathing, and is said to be gaseous.

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At Bamba, a village, three leagues from Valladolid.

At Barco d'Avila, two leagues from Piedra Hita. This spring is sulphureous, and is only used in drinking.

At Lurganes, on the mountains of Burgos.

At Navomorales, near the bridge of Congosto.

At Banos, near Bejar, on the confines of Old Castile and Estremadura. It is mildly tepid, and appears to be hepatic. It was well known to the Romans, who, to facilitate its use, constructed public baths. At present there remains, for the accommodation of bathers, nothing better than an awkward ill-contrived tub.

At Alcaraz, a village three leagues from Bracamonte; it is called the Fuente del Regajal, and appears to be sulphureous. Don Francis Alphonso Estevan y Lecha, a physician of Avila, published a treatise on these waters and those of Munana.

At Torrecillo de Cameros, four leagues from Logrono. This spring is called Fuente de Riba los Banos.

The lofty mountains of Old Castile are inhabited by various species of quadrupeds. The bear is a native of Occa and Reynosa. The rivers are stocked with fish, trouts, barbels, and eels. The river Tormes produces trout from six to twelve, or even eighteen pounds in weight.

Arts and Sciences. In Old Castile there is no establishment which can properly be said to exist for the promotion of science. In the colleges which have been founded for the use of youth, the instruction is limited to the elements of the Latin language. In the convents, the schools for philosophy and theology, are open only to religious orders, nor are any exboarders admitted but by particular favor. There are three universities, which, as they preserve their primitive form, and retain all their ancient prejudices, embrace no general views of literature or science, and are solely occupied by the pecuniary cares and petty contests of their respective professors. There is a mathematical school at Valladolid, and another at Segovia, for drawing, natural

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natural philosophy, some branches of chemistry, the mathematics, and fortifications, but the former is still in its infancy; the latter admits only pupils of artillery.

The polite arts have received as little patronage as the sciences in Old Castile. Till lately no institution existed for their diffusion or encouragement. A few years since a school for drawing, and an academy for the polite arts, were established, the one at Burgos and the other at Valladolid, by the merchants of those respective cities.

Old Castile has given some distinguished characters to literature and science. The Roman poet Aurelius and the celebrated orator Quintilian were both natives of Calahorra. The theologians Dominic Soto and Francis Ribera were born at Segovia. The learned physician Louis Mercado and Ferdinand Nunes were both, as has been already mentioned, of Valladolid.

The greatest ornaments of the arts have arisen in Old Castile. The sixteenth century produced Alfonso Berruguete, who was born at Paredes de Mata, in the vicinity of Valladolid, and John Fernandez Navarette, of Logrono. The former, who was both a painter and an architect, and deservedly esteemed the first of Spanish sculptors, died in 1561. The latter, who was equally eminent in painting, and whose name, under the title of el Mudo, or the Mute, is immortal, died in 1576. Four other artists adorned the seventeenth century; Diego de Leyva, who left some good paintings; Philip Gil de Menes, of Valladolid, who excelled in portraits; Anthony Pereda, of the same town, who was eminently successful in sacred subjects; Matthew Zerezo, of Burgos, a pupil of John Carreno, whose appropriate merit was in the delicacy and harmony of his colours.

Customs, Manners, Character, Language. It is the remark of an acute writer, that the Old Castilians are gloomy and taciturn, and bear in their swarthy aspect the expression of dejection and poverty. It must be acknowledged they have

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little relish for the pleasures of society; they are serious, grave, reserved, and somewhat stately, and in their movements are perhaps more solemn and slow than any other people in Spain; but it must be admitted also, that their morals are incorrupt and ingenuous; that they are upright in conduct, strangers to artifice, and unpractised in cunning or duplicity; probity is their birthright; they are naturally obliging; they are also disinterested, and so perfectly free from affectation that they may justly be called the honest people of Spain. Placed in one of the poorest provinces of the Spanish empire, without wealth, and without the means to obtain it, their energy is constantly repressed by poverty, their industry languishes from discouragement, and whilst they are stigmatized with apathy and sloth, they are in reality oppressed with accumulated difficulties, and left by an unfortunate destiny to inactivity and despondence. In general they are averse to conversation, they have little intercourse with one another, and still less with strangers; their few amusements are of the same sombre cast; subjected to an imperious etiquette, equally circumscribed, constrained, and monotonous, they afford no variety, and inspire no gaiety, but are uniformly characterized by circumspection, gloom and solemnity; different shades of character are however often perceptible in this province. The inhabitants of the valley of Mena, in the country of Burgos, who believe themselves descended from the ancient Cantabres, still retain a large portion of their constitutional courage and vivacity. The habits and manners of the mountaineers of Burgos correspond with those of the Biscayans.

In their costume the Old Castilians are not different from the rest of Spain; in general they adopt the fashions established in New Castile. The mountaineers are the most peculiar in their dress. In the villages bordering on Biscay the women still exhibit the garb which was worn in the fifteenth or sixteenth century. This consists of a gown (commonly of a brown colour,) close at the collar and the wrist, with

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with slashed sleeves, confined to the waist by a large girdle and buckle; they braid their hair in tresses, and leave it flowing behind. They cover the head with a black silk hat, which they call a Montera.

The Castilian language is the only one in familiar use; it is pure from foreign idioms, except in the vicinity of Biscay, where it is corrupted by a mixture with the dialect peculiar to that province.

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NEW CASTILE.

New Castile is one of the largest provinces of Spain; it lies between the kingdoms of Murcia, Valencia, Aragon, Old Castile, Estremadura, Cordova, Jaen, and La Mancha; the last country is annexed to New Castile, is under the authority of its own intendant, and, from its wide extent, the variety of its productions, and its distinct administration, should seem to be a separate independent province.

New Castile, without including La Mancha, contains fifty-six leagues from north to south and forty-nine from east to west. It is bordered by Aragon on the east and by La Mancha on the south-east; by the kingdom of Valencia on the south, also on the east and south-east; by the kingdoms of Jaen and Cordova on the south; by Estremadura on the west; by Old Castile on the north and north-west. It comprehends all those countries which were called by the Romans the Celtiberia, the land of the Oretani, and

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and Carpetania, &c. The last included a portion of Betia.

The three most important countries in New Castile are La Mancha, the Alcaria, and the Sierra de Cuenca, which is the highest land in Spain.

New Castile presents immense plains, bounded and sometimes bisected by mountains, several of which are extremely elevated. The Sierra de Cuenca is completely mountainous, yet diversified by vallies as extensive as plains. The Alcaria is almost all level; the rest of New Castile is alternately formed of mountains and plains.

This province has an archbishopric at Toledo, a bishopric at Cuenca, two cathedral chapters, five collegiate chapters, two abbeys, four establishments of military orders, thirteen hundred and one parishes, three hundred seventy-five religious houses, a hundred and eight hospitals, eight monks' hospitals, a supreme military government, four provincial military governments, four provincial intendants, two universities, fifty colleges for education, six cities, seven hundred fifty-four towns, and three hundred eighty-two villages.

The principal towns are Toledo, the capital of the province; Cuenca; Madrid, the royal residence, and the metropolis of Spain; Talavera de la Reyna, Illesca, Zurita, Tremblequa, Villa Nueva de los Infantes, Consuegra, Alcolea, Guadalaxara,

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dalaxara, Alcala de Henarez; the three last towns are the chief places in Alcarria.

There are three navigable rivers in New Castile, the Tagus, the Jaco, and the Guadiana; these are connected with the following smaller rivers, which are twenty-three in number, the Henarez, the Gaya, the Cabriel, the Oliana, the Guecaro, the Cauda, the Zuia, the Bedija, the Xiqueta, the Lozoya, the Guadarrama, the Albereque, the Xarama, the Molina, the Manganara, the Cabrilla, the Tietar, the Tacuna, the Tortoles, the Guazaon, the Guadiera, the Moscas.

The principal mountains consist of that lofty ridge which was called by the Romans the Montes Orospedani, and which, originating in the Sierra d'Occa, forms the Sierras de Molina, de Cuenca, and de Consuegra, and shoots towards Alcaraz, Segura, and Carzola. It divides into two branches, one of which terminates near the Mediterranean, below the city of Murcia, whilst the other stretches out to Malaga in the kingdom of Grenada, where, uniting with the mountains of Grenada, it advances beyond Gibraltar and Tarif till it verges on the sea.

The Sierras d'Alcaraz, de Molina, d'Albarazin, de Cuenca, are ramifications of the same mountain. The first runs through La Mancha, and spreads from north to south towards the southern part of Jaen, and bears to the Sierra Morena. The Sierra de Molina is at the north-east point

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point of New Castile, extends to the north of Old Castile, and to the east of Aragon. The Sierra Albarazin runs below at the north of the Sierra Molina, bearing towards the east and south of New Castile; on the east it advances to Aragon, where it forms a junction with the Sierra de Cuenca. The Sierra de Cuenca occupies the middle part of the eastern side of New Castile, and extends eastward to Aragon and Valencia; it is of great extent, and forms several ridges, which pursue different directions and assume different names: these mountains are supposed to be the most elevated in Spain.

The Sierras de Guadarrama and Pineda, which also advance to an extraordinary height, separate New Castile from Old Castile; the first is derived from the Pyrenees, the second, which is five or six leagues from Burgos, forms part of the Sierra Occa.

The history of New Castile necessarily involves that of Spain. From the Romans it passed, in common with other provinces, to the Goths, from the Goths to the Moors, from whom it reverted to the Goths, and finally became, in conjunction with Old Castile, the cradle of the Spanish monarchy.

Early in the fifth century (in 412) it was conquered from the Romans by the Alani, who founded a gothic dynasty, and fixed their court at Toledo. With this line of princes, hereditary

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tary succession was not always prevalent; the monarch was often elected by popular suffrage, the supreme authority was sometimes obtained by transcendant valour, but more frequently extorted by atrocious treason and sanguinary violence. In a period of two hundred and ninety-nine years, New Castile was governed by thirty-three gothic sovereigns, from Altholphus, who reigned in 412,* to Roderigo, who perished in 711, in the battle of Xerez against the Moors.†

The death of Roderigo was followed by the desolation of Spain and the subversion of the gothic empire. The victorious Moors spread from province to province, the country was deluged in blood, and at length made subject to the caliphs of Bagdat. It continued in this state of vassalage and degradation till Abderama, raising the standard of rebellion, established an independent sovereignty in Spain, and assumed the crown of Cordova. New Castile was comprehended in the other provinces of the new monarchy till

* This number includes neither Athanaric nor Alaric, who reigned in some parts of Spain; the former in 309, the latter in 382; their reigns were precarious; they left no successors.

† Baronius, Mariana, Cardonna, and almost all the Spanish historians, have fixed the epoch of the battle of Xerez and the death of king Roderigo in the month of November, 714. This inaccuracy in chronology has been admitted on the authority of Roderigo of Toledo, who committed an error in his comparison between the lunar years of the hegira with the Julian calendar, which was observed in Spain till the fourteenth century. The ninetieth year of the hegira corresponds with the year 747 of the Julian era, which commenced thirty-eight years before the birth of Christ. The battle of Xerez was in the year 749 of the Julian calendar, and consequently in 711, according to the Christian era.

a Moorish

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a Moorish prince, who had revolted from his sovereign, arrested from him this valuable part of his dominions, and formed another court and capital at Toledo.

During these transactions the Christians, retreating to the mountains of the Asturias, founded the kingdom of Oviedo, which in the course of two centuries was slowly extended to the province of Leon. By a series of successful incursions the Christian realm was gradually enlarged, till at length the kings of Leon annexed to their territories the important provinces of Old and New Castile. The administration of these states was committed to a certain number of nobles, who held the rank of counts, and exercised the prerogative of governors; but their influence exciting jealousy in Orduno, the first king of Leon, that sanguinary tyrant abolished the office, and caused the administrators of it to be seized and decapitated.

This outrage occasioned the dismemberment of his kingdom. The high spirited Castilians renounced allegiance, declared themselves independent, and established a popular form of government. In consequence of this revolution, which took place at the commencement of the tenth century, the executive and legislative powers were vested in two judges, chosen

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chosen by the people from the families of their murdered governors. The same form subsisted till 928, when Fernando Gonzalez, who had succeeded his father in the magisterial dignity, was proclaimed sole count of Castile. The office was perpetuated in his family during three generations, when the male line becoming extinct, Nuna Mayor, its female representative, transferred her own hereditary rights to her husband, Sancho, king of Navarre, who assumed the title of king of Castile. This prince was of the house of Bigorre, and consequently it appears that the founder of the Castilian monarchy was of French extraction.

The new king obtained but a small part of New Castile, which was still occupied by the Moors. The reunion of that principality with Old Castile was not effected till 1085, after the conquest of Toledo and Talavera, a splendid achievement, the honor of which is due to Alfonso the Fourth, the grandson of that prince who had erected Castile into a kingdom.

In the revolution of a hundred and eighty years, the kingdoms of Castile and Leon were frequently separated and united till 1231, when Ferdinand the Pious, who inherited Leon from his father, and in his mother's right claimed Castile, rendered the union of the two crowns firm and indissoluble. Ferdinand was the first lineal descendant from Raymond of Burgundy, who

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who had married the daughter of Alfonso, the last branch of the house of Bigorre.

The kingdom of Castile and Leon was sunk in 1475, when Ferdinand and Isabella became joint sovereigns of Spain. From this rapid sketch it appears that the Castilian succession has almost invariably descended in a line of French princes; during five hundred twenty-seven years it was subject to the houses of Bigorre and Burgundy, in 1555 it diverged to the house of Austria, but in 1700 reverted to a French prince.

The power of the Castilian kings was limited* by the laws. The assembly of the states or the cortes possessed many prerogatives, calculated to restrain the authority of their sovereign; with them resided the right of granting imposts, and of acknowledging the heirs of the crown; their voice was necessary to sanction the laws, and it was often their will which dictated them. These assemblies were originally composed of the clergy, the grandees, and the nobles. A deputation of the commons, selected from such towns as had received their franchise, was admitted to that august body in the thirteenth century. The cortes preserved their energy till the reign of Ferdinand; it was the

* The kings of Aragon, the counts of Barcelona, the kings of Navarre, have all sprung from French families, from whence it follows that the different states of Spain have been always subject to the authority of French princes.

object

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object of that politic prince, whose inordinate ambition could ill brook either opposition or restraint, insensibly to undermine their strength and abridge their authority; the same plan was pursued by his successor, Charles the Fifth, who constantly directed his operations against the nobles, and, in 1538, formally excluded them from the legislative assemblies. The privileges of the commons were virtually abolished by this step; for though the states in which they took their seat were sometimes assembled, they exhibited but the shadow of their former greatness; they were convened for no other purpose than to recognize the succession to the crown, as it had been previously established, to take the oaths of fidelity and allegiance, and manifest unbounded submission to the will of their sovereign. Under such limitations their convocation is reduced to a vain ceremony, and nearly a century has elapsed since it was last exhibited.

There were four orders of knighthood originally established in Castile. The order of St. Mary of Spain was founded in 1270, by Alfonso the Wise, and united, in 1280, to that of St. James. The order of the Escama, or the Shell, was founded in 1421, by John the Second, but disappeared soon after the death of its founder. The order of the Vanda, or the Band, was instituted in 1332, by Alphonso the Fifth, for the

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the first nobility of his states; its members were distinguished by a blue ribbon, which was worn over the right shoulder and under the left arm. The order of the Paloma, or the Dove, was created in 1383, by John; its insignia were a silver dove, suspended from a collar of gold; these orders are completely extinct; but there exist in Spain seven orders of more modern institution, which will be noticed in another place.

DESCRIPTION OF NEW CASTILE.

*Route from the Frontiers of Old Castile, at the Puerto de Guadarrama to Madrid, Nine Leagues.**

Puerto de Guadarrama.	
Guadarrama, village	2 leagues.
Rozas, village	3
Le Manzanarez, river Bridge of Segovia Madrid	4

In your descent from the mountain Guadarrama, you discover, two leagues to the right, the magnificent monastery of the Escurial; having passed the village of Guadarrama, you proceed, in three hours, to that of Rozas; the road is uniformly good, and the scenery as diversified as agreeable. The hills are skirted with villages, and cloathed with pines and oaks, or royal forests of immense extent.

* Route from France by Bayonne, Burgos, Valladolid.

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As you approach the plain, you find a fine country, sown with wheat and barley, but almost naked of trees. Advancing to the banks of the Manzanarez you cross a noble bridge called the Segovia, and having traversed some part of the fine promenade of Floride, enter Madrid by St. Vincent's gate.

Route from the Frontier of Old Castile to Madrid, Nineteen Leagues.

Mountain Atienza, the boundary of Old Castile.*	
Xadraque, village	6 leagues.
Flores, village	4
Henarez, river	3
Alcala de Henarez, town	2
Canarmilla, Torote } ravines.	
Torrejon de Ardos, village	1¼
Rejas, village	1½
Canillejas de Bajo, village	½
Venta del Espiritu Santo	1
Madrid	½

The entrance into New Castile is marked by the descent of the mountain Atienza; we arrive at a large plain, gently undulated with acclivities; and having spent five hours in traversing it, reach the village of Xadraco, and four hours after that of Flores.

We pursue our track through a wood planted with the Quercus Ilex, on which is found, the

* Route from Bayonne to Pampeluna, and from thence to Madrid.

coccus

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coccus or gall insect, familiarly known by the name of kermes. The land is here rocky, but a fertile well cultivated tract succeeds, producing wheat, and planted with olives and vines. As we wind along the banks and knolls towards the interior of the country we catch a glimpse of the village of Hita, situated at the foot of a hill, which rises in the figure of a pyramid, on whose summit are still seen the ruins of an old castle.

Having forded the river Henarez, we have to traverse a plain of siliceous soil, but extremely fertile; beyond is a range of hills, and above them another plain, composed of calcareous earth, which is well cultivated. We soon arrive at Alcala Henarez, and from thence continue the route to Madrid.

Route from the Frontiers of Aragon through Daroca and Used to Madrid, 35 Leagues ½. *

Used, last village of Aragon.	
Embid del Marques, a village	3 leagues.
Tortuera, village	1
Tartanedo, village	2
Concha, village	1
Anchuela del Campo, village	1
Barbacil, village	2
Maranchon, village	1

* Route from the frontiers of France through Perpignan, Barcelona, and Saragossa to Madrid.

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Aguilarego, village	2
Alculea del Pina	1
From thence to Madrid	21¼

This road unites with that of Aguilarejo and Alculea.

The little village of Embid del Marcho is the first place we reach on entering New Castile, and is three leagues from Used, the last village of Aragon; a wide plain of an unequal surface lies between them, which is not passed in less than two hours.

Beyond Embido del Marcho is a plain, in some parts cultivated, in others dotted with shrubs, and in many places covered with flocks; after extending a league, it leads to Tortuera, a little village, built on the rocks, poor and mean, though commanding a fertile vale, and surrounded by delicious pastures. In two hours the traveller reaches Tartanedo, and in another hour the village of Concha, which is said to be almost the highest ground in Spain; the road winds through a woody country, perpetually embellished by the *abies*, which is here called the Spanish cedar. The vicinity of Concha produces petrifactions similar to those of Molina in Aragon.

Having passed the villages of Anchuela del Campo, Barbacil, Maranchon, and Aguilarejo, we arrive at Alculea del Pinar, near which the rocks ascend to a gigantic height. At this spot the

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the road unites with that which leads from Aragon to Madrid. In the environs of the village of Maranchon are found innumerable fragments of pisolites, belemnites, and other bivalved fossil shells imbedded on calcareous earth.

Itinerary from the Frontiers of Aragon, through Calatayud and Sisamon to Madrid, Thirty-one Leagues.

Limits of Aragon and New Castile, at three quarters of a league from Sisamon *.	
Ruecha, village	1¼ leagues.
Venta del Campo	
Venta del Gorro	1¾
Alcolea del Pinar, village	1¾
Torre, hamlet	1½
Torremocha del Campo, village	1¼
Algora, village	1¾
Venta de Anca	3¼
Grajanejos or Guajunejos, village	1
Trijueque, village	1½
Torrija, town	1
Valdenoches, village	1¼
Terasena, village	½
Guadalaxara, town	1
Henarez, river without bridge	¼
Venta de San Juan	1¾
Venta de Meco	1
Alcala de Henarez, town	1
Carnarmilla, Torote, } torrents or ravins.	

* Route from the frontiers of France through Perpignan, Barcelona, and Saragossa to Madrid.

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Torrejon de Ardos, village	1½
Rejas, village	1½
Canillejas de Baxo, village	½
Venta del Espiritu Santo	1
Madrid	½

Having passed the square tower which marks the boundary of Aragon and New Castile, three quarters of a league from Sisamon, you continue to traverse the same plain, which spreads over the mountains forming part of the Sierra de Cuenca; it is extremely woody, alternately rude and cultivated, but uniformly dry and arid. Though art had no share in its formation, the road is smooth and pleasant.

In about a quarter of an hour you may reach Ruecha, a village situated on a eminence, commanding the plain. Four hours after you arrive at Venta del Campo. The road is here obstructed by large rolling stones, and the country appears uncultivated.

At the distance of two leagues you descend to a narrow pass, two hundred feet in length, where you may almost reach across the rocks of the two recumbent mountains. From hence you open on a wide plain, bare and uncultivated, at the commencement of which is the Venta del Gorro, leading to Alcolea del Pinar, a small village, wretchedly poor, supposed to be the most elevated residence in Spain; it is commanded by a lofty mountain, where, if we may trust

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trust popular credulity, the streams divide, which in one direction flow to Madrid and the other to Aragon; this village is dignified with a house de Posada, where the unfortunate traveller finds neither accommodation nor refreshment.

The country from hence to Torrija, a space of eighteen leagues, is uniformly dull, dreary, and disagreeable; it is principally composed of dry arid plains, occasionally intersected by crags and ravines, sometimes presenting a few fields of corn, but most frequently rude and desolate; it affords no wood; here and there a few trees appear thinly scattered, and once or twice a small plantation, which is rather to be called a grove than a forest; but in general the traveller looks in vain for foliage or verdure; the frequent recurrence of eminences and declivities becomes fatiguing; the soil is constantly rugged, and rocks sometimes interpose, that render the road impracticable.

Pursuing the route, you perceive to the right the hamlet of Torri, and proceed from the village of Torremocha del Campo to Algora, another village, with four hundred inhabitants, who in 1790 expended sixty thousand reals in gilding and decorating the principal altar of the parochial church. The public prison is its best edifice; it has been rebuilt, and presents a regular square, with five iron windows in front. The house de Posada is, however, little superior to those already mentioned.

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You next arrive at Venta de Arco, and proceed to Grajujenos, a village situated over a large ravin; from the side of which four streams of water spring, and unite below, and at Trijueque, a village, which, if one may judge from the number of ricks of corn collected in the neighbourhood, should be rich. Soon after this the road becomes very beautiful as far as Torrija, where you arrive after an hour's travelling from Trijueque.

Torrija, formerly a strong town, now half in ruins, situated upon an eminence, which commands the valley of that name, is the residence of the intendant of Guadalaxara. It is surrounded by very high walls, flanked by round towers at small intervals from each other; the greatest part of them are in ruins, but some are yet intire. A small castle, or rather a large tower, standing above the walls opposite the entrance of the valley, is square, high, bounded by a platform, and defended by four large round turrets with battlements. Another square tower stands near the former, fortified with embrasures, furnished with a platform, and guarded by four turrets, which are situated in the middle of each of its sides, and flanked at its angles by four very small round towers, elevated above the level of the platform.

You find, at the bottom of this declivity, a pillar with two inscriptions, one in Latin, the other

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other in Castilian; they apprize travellers that the passage of the valley which they are about to enter was very dangerous; and that to prevent the frequent accidents which happened there, the king, urged by the wise counsel of the count of Florida Blanca, caused a new road to be made, which was begun in 1787, under the reign of Charles the Third, and finished in 1790, under Charles the Fourth.

You enter the valley, or rather a narrow pass, through the mountains; but the grass and trees which cover the small space to the right between the road and the mountain render it very pleasant.

The road is excellent, and made in the form of a causeway, raised about a foot and a half above the level of the adjacent country, and sufficiently broad to admit four carriages abreast; it is shaded with elms, planted on each side at a little distance from each other; it follows the windings of the mountain, and is continued in this manner for three quarters of a league.

To this succeeds a less remarkable, but good road, still running through the valley, which becomes broader at Valdenoche, about a league and a quarter from Torrija. Olive and fruit trees abound here. In about half an hour you leave the valley by a slight and gentle declivity; at the top of it is Terasena, a village situated at the entrance of a little plain, which conducts to

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to an eminence, where Guadalaxara is discovered in its whole extent. Half an hour afterwards you arrive at this city.

GUADALAXARA.

Guadalaxara is an ancient city, formerly inhabited by the Romans who named it, according to some Arriaca and Carraca, and according to others Turria. It next passed under the dominion of the Goths, and was conquered by the Moors in 714; they called it either Guidalhichara or Guidalarriaca, whence is derived the name it bears at present. It was retaken in 1081, by Alvar Fanez, cousin of the Cid, for king Alphonso the First of Castile and Sixth of Leon. It is situated in a plain near the eastern bank of the Henarez, and is the capital or chief town of the beautiful canton of Alçarria in New Castile.

Extent. This city is large but ill built. It was formerly surounded by strong walls, of which considerable vestiges are still to be seen. It received, in 1464, from Henry the Fourth of Castile, the title of city, and the right of sending deputies to the States-General of the kingdom.

Population. The population was formerly more numerous; it is now reduced to about twelve thousand souls; but it has increased since the establishment of the cloth manufactories.

Clergy. It has ten parishes, six monasteries, seven convents, two hospitals, of which one is kept by the nuns of San Juan de Dios, or Sisters of Charity, and eight hermitages,

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hermitages, chapels or private oratories. It had a monastery of the order of St. Anthony, which was suppressed in 1791.

Administration. It is the chief place under the controul of an intendant and corrigidor, and the place of residence of both, as well as of an alcade mayor.

Edifices. The palace of the family of Infantado is an edifice of considerable extent, but constructed with little taste. The architecture of the outer court is in the Gothic style; it would be handsome if it was executed with more delicacy. The apartments are ornamented with gilding, but massive and heavy; on the other hand there are some historical pictures, and ornaments, in which intelligence, taste, and strength is displayed; they are the work of Romulo Cincinato.

The church of the Cordeliers is grand, but ill decorated; the steps to the sanctuary are of white marble; the cloister contains some good pictures of the life of St. Francis. In the convent is a monument of the grandeur of the house of Infantado; it is a pantheon which, on account of its magnificence, deserves to occupy a place more open to the view of connoisseurs; it is placed in a vault under the great altar, and the door opens into the sanctuary. This building was commenced in 1696, and finished in 1728; it cost 1,802,707 * copper reals, or 450,676 French livres 15 sous.

You descend by a flight of fifty-five steps, divided into four landing places; the stairs, walls, and roof are inlaid with marble of different colours, and of great beauty; it is disposed with art, and forms designs which unite delicacy of workmanship, exactness of execution, and a well arranged variety of shading.

There are two doors at the bottom of this stair-case, one opens into the vault where the bodies of the noble family of Infantado are deposited, and the other into a chamber

* About 19,154*l.* English currency.

intended

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intended as a sort of hall of exhibition, which is large and oval, variegated with a mosaic pavement; the roof is highly ornamented and gilt; the hall is divided into several compartments, separated by pillars of various coloured marble; each division contains four niches, one above another, parted by slabs of dark blue marble, and incloses a tomb of purple stone, on the top of which is placed a ducal coronet. There are twenty-six vaults, one remains always open, as if prepared for the body of the first nobleman of that family who should die.

A small chapel, of a circular shape, is built at the side of this hall; the walls and pavement are ornamented with the same sort of marble, covered with a dome, which rises on the outside, into the interior of the principal altar of the church of the Cordeliers, and opens beneath the place where the Holy Sacrament is administered.

This chapel has an altar, enriched with a profusion of gilding, built in the form of a pavillion, supported by four columns of marble, upon each of which is a crucifix of gilt bronze. The space before the altar is of beautiful marble, fancifully disposed, and ornamented in the middle with a large piece of marble, valuable on account of its size and the variety of the shadings; it is as precious as the finest jasper.

The dukes of Infantado seem to have endeavoured to imitate the superb Pantheon built by the kings of Spain at the palace of the Escurial; they have attempted at least to unite, in the monument consecrated to their ancestors and descendants, all that taste can add to magnificence. This noble family is equally distinguished by their patriotism and humanity, by their courage and their charity. The present duke of Infantado is one of the greatest characters of Spain, and it is but justice to give this praise to the chief of the family, as we have before spoken of the count Florida Blanca, in the description of the kingdom of Murcia.

Celebrated

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Celebrated men. This city was the birth-place of several well known writers; three theologians, Alvarez Gomez de Ciudadreal, a poet as well as divine, in the sixteenth century; Chrisostom Cabrera and Francis Ortiz Lucio, in the seventeenth; and of Alphonso Lopez de Haro, a genealogist, who flourished about the beginning of the same century; of the physician André Alcazar, or Valcazer, who wrote, in 1570, on wounds in the head. Didace Collantes de Avellanedo was likewise born there, and published, in 1600, a good commentary on practical agriculture; and the two historians Antonio de Trillo and Matthias Medina y Mendoza, the former of whom wrote, in 1570, the history of the war in Flanders, the latter the history of his own country.

Manufactures. At Guadalaxara an extensive manufactory of cloths and serge has been established some years on the king's account. The cloths made there are of different qualities; one which, on account of the fineness of the appearance, rivals the best French cloths, but does not possess their lustre. They manufacture also, with the wool of Buenos Ayres and Peru, the famous Vigonia, so much sought after, and which so much trouble is taken to procure, because they only make it as they have a demand for it. It is sold at from 340 to 360 reals the vara. Much serge is also woven here.

This manufactory is very considerable; they have all kinds of machines and necessary instruments. At first they employed about one thousand looms; the number is now diminished, but is still large; it contains about eighty for cloths of the first quality, two hundred and twenty for seconds, and three hundred and fifty for serges. It brings in every year from 13 to 14 millions of reals, or about £145,833:8:4 British. * About four thousand eight hun-

* They sold, in 1796, the superfine cloths at 94 reals the vara, or 33 livres 15 sols 7 deniers the ell; cloths of the second quality, the finest and clearest colours, 84 reals, or 30 livres 3 sols 6 deniers the ell; and serge at 13 reals, or 4 livres 13 sols 5 deniers the ell. Cloths of the same qualities in black, white, and common colours were sold at 10 or 11 reals less.

dred

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dred persons are employed in this trade in the city of Guadalaxara alone. The king bestowed upon it some time since the sum of 600,000 reals, or about £6250 British, a year.

This manufactory has produced some real advantages; it has enriched the city of Guadalaxara, which was before very poor and almost entirely depopulated. It furnishes subsistence to near forty thousand souls, in the plains of La Mancha, and of both the Castiles, which it occupies in carding the necessary quantity of wool. The importation of woollen stuffs from England is considerably diminished, of which they say the value formerly was about £93,333:6:8 English; this price seems exaggerated, though the sum was really considerable.

Notwithstanding this, the manufactory has not answered the expectations of the people. The cloths, no doubt, are extremely good, but they have not reached the perfection of the French and English. Their machinery is very expensive; and they sell their goods almost as dear as foreign cloths; and thus they are unable to support the opposition, and the Spaniards themselves prefer those of other countries.

The expence is unnecessarily increased. Every thing is done on the king's account, and with a profusion which would soon cease under the eye of an owner. The prodigious number of workmen, the most part of whom are useless, consume an immense sum of money; there is one intendant, one director, several contadors, treasurers, administrators, inspectors, agents, and an infinite number of other subaltern officers, who cost much and do nothing. The little interest felt by those who are employed, in the success of the undertaking, does not tend to introduce order or economy, attention, promptitude, or perfection in the manufacture. The result is, that this establishment, which would have prospered in the hands of private persons, now makes but little progress. It is in this manner that great undertakings, which

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which are worked on the account of the king, succeed; those who are employed, enrich themselves, and while the sovereign is lavish of his treasure, the manufactory is scarcely able to support itself.

Inns. There are four hotels at Guadalaxara, three of them are kept by Catalonians, and are very bad.

On leaving Guadalaxara, at a little distance from that city you pass the river Henarez. Formerly there was a bridge over it, which was damaged by the floods in 1757; and having neglected to repair it, it fell in. They wished to rebuild it, and imposed a contribution on the country thirty leagues round; this tax has been taken off twenty years, the people having paid, the money has disappeared, and the bridge has not been built.

You enter an extensive, beautiful, and well cultivated plain, bounded on the left by the mountains which divide New Castile from la Mancha, and on the right by those which separate this province from Old Castile. It is watered by the Henarez, and yet is in want of moisture, though it might easily be drawn from that river. Not a tree is to be seen; you travel two leagues farther over a good road, and arrive at la Venta de San Juan, one hour afterwards at Meco, and in another hour at Alcala de Henarez, after observing, in the fields to the right, the villages of Meco, Azuqueca, Alovera, Quer, Cavanillas, and Marchamalo. The situation

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tion of this city, at the extremity of the plain through which you have just passed, gives it an agreeable appearance; it is visible from a great distance, and is distinguished by the number of turrets and spires intermingled with the different cupolas, which give the town a picturesque appearance.

ALCALA DE HENAREZ.

Alcala de Henarez, by the Romans called Complutum, was situated a little farther upon a hill, which you perceive on the other side of the Henarez; the ruins of the old castle are still to be seen there. It was taken from the Romans by the Goths, and, about the beginning of the eighth century, with the rest of Spain, fell under the dominion of the Moors. According to the authority of some writers, it was conquered in 1114, according to others in 1118, by Bernard, by birth a Frenchman, who, from a monk of Clugny, became archbishop of Toledo; from whence, it appears this town fell under the lordship of that archbishopric.

The city had suffered so much during the siege, that the archbishop Raimond, the successor of Bernard, determined to rebuild it in the place where it now stands. It is situated in that canton of New Castile called Alcarria, at the extremity of a plain on the right bank of the

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the Henarez, almost at the foot of a number of mountains which partly surround it in the form of a semicircle.

Population. This city, though very large, is badly peopled for its extent; it does not contain more than five thousand inhabitants, though it would easily accommodate thirty thousand, but is almost totally taken up by churches, convents, and colleges.

Clergy. There are here, one collegiate church, three parish churches, nineteen monasteries, eight convents, thirteen colleges, and four hospitals. The collegiate church was founded by Alfonso Carillo de Acunna, archbishop of Toledo, who died in 1482, and was added to by Cisneroz, better known under the name of cardinal Ximenes. It bears the title of Magistral; the chapter is composed of six dignitaries, eighteen canons, eighteen prebendaries, and twelve chaplains; all the canons must be doctors in theology, or canon law.

Extent. This city is surrounded with walls, flanked by square towers, at short distances from each other. The town is badly laid out, but contains a fine square, and a street which would be handsome, from its length and breadth, if the houses were good. The interior of the place is gloomy, but the suburbs are more gay and agreeable.

Public Education. It was formerly one of the most famous seats of learning in Spain; it was the object of the predilection of cardinal Ximenes, who founded the university, in which there are some large and beautiful buildings, and bestowed considerable revenues upon it, with a sufficient number of professors. There are thirty-one chairs, six for theology, six for canon law, four for medicine, one for anatomy, one for surgery, one for moral philosophy, eight for philosophy, and three for rhetoric and the Greek and Hebrew languages. The cardinal wished to have excluded civil law from the number of sciences taught there,

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but this regulation was not attended to, and they have now several professors of the civil law.

Cardinal Ximenes, desiring to raise this university to a higher pitch of celebrity than any other, afterwards added several establishments, in order to facilitate the study of the sciences. He established some particular colleges at Alcala, dependant on the university; and the number was soon increased by some other persons. There are now thirteen, distinguished by the titles of Major and Minor. The Major are those of San Ildefonso, founded by Ximenes, that of theology, the *colegio trilingue*, or college for three languages, and the king's college, founded by Philip the Second. The Minor are the three colleges of the *artistas* (artists,) the college of Franciscan friars, of *Los Manriques*, *Los Verdes*, Malaga, St. Clement, and Mena. The *colegio trilingue* was intended for instruction of the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew languages; but they teach nothing there now except theology. The king's college was founded for the education of persons attached to the royal family and the service of the king's palace.

Most of these colleges have a greater or less number of professors and collegians; the latter are received, brought up, and maintained gratuitously during the course of their studies. The college of theology contains more students than any other; San Ildefonso has thirty-four collegians, twelve priests, and several servitors.

The commencement of these undertakings fully answered the expectations of the founder. The schools at Alcala soon became famous; the masters were the most celebrated of their age, and students went there in crowds; at that time there were about four thousand. The number of printers increased, and works of all sorts were continually published there. This celebrity was of short duration; the same century saw the beginning as well as the end. This university is now absolutely decayed; at present there are scarcely five hun-

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hundred students; the printing houses have disappeared, and the greater part of the publications which then issued from the press are now almost forgotten.

Edifices. The town of Alcala has some remarkable buildings and monuments; among the rest

The college of Malaga, the monastery of Bernardins, and the convent of Irish nuns, have a very respectable appearance. The church of San Diego, belonging to the Franciscans, is large, majestic, and built in the old style, but the portico is modern, and without taste. The church of the Bernardin nuns is large, oval, and covered with a dome, which gives it a fine appearance; some of the altars are adorned with good pictures by Ange Nardi. The cloister and church of San Nicholas the Tolentin, belonging to the Augustin friars, possess some valuable paintings of Francis Solis, and in the vestry is a very good one of the Conception, by Vincent Carducho.

The ancient college of the Jesuits has a double front of Corinthian architecture, adorned with pilasters and columns, between which statues are placed: the first body is of six pillars; the church has some very good pictures. They have likewise, in this convent, a numerous library, which consists chiefly of books of scholastic theology and some modern manuscripts.

The architecture of the front of the king's college is very beautiful; a good picture of the Crucifixion, by El Mudo, is to be seen in the chapel. The court is surrounded with piazzas, supported by pillars. You find there two Roman inscriptions, which are supposed to have been brought from the ancient Alcala.

The collegiate or magistral church, rebuilt by cardinal Ximenes, almost on the same plan as that of Toledo, is large and in the Gothic style. The choir is decorated by small pillars and many light ornaments, which are perhaps too numerous. Several of the chapels contain some excellent

 paintings,

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paintings, one of St. Jerome, and several pictures of the Passion of our Saviour, by Eugene Caxes; a Conception, of a considerable size, with groups of angels, of the school of Carducho; a smaller Conception, by Alphonso del Arco, is in the chapter hall.

The palace of the archbishops of Toledo at Alcala is a grand and immense building, containing, as it is said, three hundred and sixty-six rooms, without reckoning the ground floor; the architecture would be good if on a less extensive scale. The courts are numerous, and surrounded by arched piazzas, supported by pillars, which, as well as the roofs, are covered with different ornaments. It has two fronts; one, looking into the kitchen garden, is adorned with twenty-four pillars, and the other, which presents a view of the flower garden, with fifty-two columns.

The college of San Ildefonso is the most superb edifice in Alcala. The front, though of Gothic architecture, is handsome and majestic. It has three large courts, surrounded, like the former, with cloisters of beautiful architecture, and supported by pillars of different orders; the first court has three rows of piazzas, one above the other, with eighty-six Doric pillars in the two first, and of the Ionic order in the third; the columns of the second are of the Composite order, and the bend of the arches are adorned with marble heads of more than natural size; the third, called Trilingue, has thirty-six pillars of the Ionic order. The church of this college has nothing remarkable in it except the mausoleum of its founder, made of marble, and placed in the middle before the sanctuary. It is a tomb with twelve niches, in which are figures of angels and saints; four griffins, with their wings extended, are placed at each of the angles, as well as the statues of four doctors of the church; the figure of a cardinal, clothed in his pontifical robes, is lying on a bed, richly adorned, and an inscription in honour of cardinal Ximenes is in front. This mausoleum is surrounded by a fine large bronze grating, with

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with a number of ornaments; there are three thousand pounds weight of this metal.

Alcala is known principally by the edition of the polyglot bible, which was published there under the direction of cardinal Ximenes and of the learned men assembled by him. It was likewise the place where fifty-two theologians, assembled in congregation under the same cardinal, condemned the erroneous opinions of Pedro de Osma, a professor at Salamanca, on confession, contrition, indulgences, and the authority of the pope and the church.

Manners and Customs. Alcala is a very gloomy town, without any kind of amusement or society, almost peopled by priests, monks, professors, students, and members of colleges. A pedantic manner is the reigning fashion at Alcala; the revels of the university are the only object of dissipation; they are pursued with eagerness, and are the only subjects of conversation. Several of the necessaries of life are not to be found here; provisions are very dear, although the plain on which it borders is very fruitful, though without trees, and produces nothing but corn; they do not know how to take advantage of the neighbourhood of the Henarez, whose waters would fertilize it if conducted through the country.

Celebrated Men. This town was the birth place of the martyrs, St. Justus and St. Pastor, whose bodies are preserved in the collegiate church; it was also the native town of Gregory Bœticus, bishop of Elvira, a distinguished theologian of the fourteenth century; of Jerome de Florencia, a preacher of the earlier part of the sixteenth; of the physicians Christophe a Vega and Francis de Sylva y Oliveta; the former wrote, in the sixteenth century, on Hippocrates and Galen, on the pulse and plague; the latter on coal; of the poet Francis Figuera; of the naturalist Juan de Bustamante de la Camara; but its greatest boast is the having given birth to the historian Antonio Solis, the elegant author of the Conquest of Mexico.

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Inns. Alcala has several hotels and one inn, which is kept by a Catalonian, and tolerably well supplied with provisions. The landlords are very respectable people.

The journey from Alcala is over a road which would be good if it was not too sandy. You traverse a vast plain, laid out for corn, but without trees or water, notwithstanding the neighbourhood of the Henarez, which runs through it; this river flows about two hundred paces to the right. You next pass the two brooks, or rather torrents of the Camarmilla and the Torote. After an hour and a quarter's travelling you leave towards the right the villages of Torrejon and Ardoz; an hour after you enter the new road, which was begun in 1790, and is not yet finished; you quit it soon afterwards, and pass in sight of San-Fernando, chiefly known by being the place of seclusion of the women of the town from Madrid, and leave it at about half a league distance on the left. Further on, you go by the village of Rejas, leaving Barajas a quarter of a league to the right: and half an hour afterwards arrive at Canilejas de Baxo, where the house and beautiful gardens of the duke of Osuna are situated.

You proceed for about an hour, and then begin to come in sight of Madrid, which you perceive gradually as you advance, but its extent and beauty does not answer the idea one forms of the capital of a large kingdom; you distinguish

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tinguish a collection of pyramids, formed by a considerable number of spires, but look in vain for buildings, which, from their size, extent, and magnificence, give this picture a complete appearance of grandeur and nobility, which one expects to find in the capital of a great empire. The beauty of this city is still further diminished by a deep declivity, into which you descend as far as the gates of the city, at the very moment when it would appear most interesting.

You reascend and again come in sight of the city at about a quarter of a league distant. You arrive by a direct avenue of trees at the gate of Alcala, through which you enter the city. Here you are assailed by a troop of guards, from whom, in appearance, you have every thing to dread, but a little money generally relaxes their zeal, and opens an easy passage to the traveller.

MADRID.

The entrance of Madrid displays in all parts a town enlivened by the presence of the sovereign. The approaches to all the gates are by fine streets and elegant avenues, planted with trees. The roads from the royal residence are all beautiful; that which goes along the banks of the Manzanarez, and leads to the gate of St. Vincent, is rendered very pleasant from the quan-

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tity of trees on both sides as well as the beauty of the road. But the entrance to Madrid through the gate of Alcala is infinitely the finest; you have scarcely passed a magnificent gate, constructed in the form of a triumphal arch, than you see on all sides objects to attract the attention: an elegant avenue immediately presents itself, on the right is a row of low, but uniform and agreeable houses, and, on the left, railings, through which you perceive gardens of immense extent: the beautiful promenade of the Prado crosses the end of it; the view is soon lost in the immensity of the street of Alcala; nothing is wanting to render the coup d'œil completely picturesque, except that it should be in a direct line with the gate of that name.

The origin of Madrid is not more known than that of so many other large towns, which are left to imagination and enthusiasm to discover. Some have endeavoured to trace the founders of this city among the Greeks, who never penetrated so far into Spain; others say that it was the ancient Mantua Carpetanorum. However that may be, it was only known at first in history by the palace, castle, or pleasure-house which the kings of Castile possessed there. Alphonso, the Sixth of Leon and First of Castile, who reigned at the end of the eleventh century, is said to have laid the foundation: we

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we find that it was sacked by the Moors in 1109, after the siege of Toledo was raised, and was overthrown by an earthquake towards the middle of the fourteenth century, under the reign of Peter the Cruel, and rebuilt by Henry the Second, the successor of that prince.

This palace or mansion was only the country residence of the sovereign; houses were built in the neighbourhood, and their number increased in proportion to the frequency of the journies made by the court, and the length of time they remained. Charles the First made it his most frequent abode, and gave rise to considerable additions: Philip the Second, his son, removed the seat of government there in 1563.

This city gave signal proofs of fidelity to Philip the Fifth during the war of the succession.

Although abandoned by that prince, it neither yielded to the presence or the arms of his successor. Philip, without forces, thrice obliged to fly at the approach of the victorious army of Charles, left Madrid, with all his court, the first time in the month of June, 1706, and a second time the 9th of September, 1709. The city of Madrid, exposed on all sides, without troops or any means of defence, could not prevent the entrance of the army of the archduke, and took an extorted oath of fidelity to that prince; but every thing proved to Charles, though he

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he was in possession of the town, he did not reign in the hearts of the inhabitants. His entry was both times the signal of gloom, the streets were deserted, the doors and windows of the shops and houses were shut; the only signs of acclamation proceeded from a few children, hired for the purpose, and even among them some voices were heard in favour of Philip. Charles, visibly struck, especially the second time, with a reception so unexpected and contrary to his interests, scarcely went to the end of the Calle Mayor (great street) to the place called Puerta de Guadalaxara, and refused to proceed any further. Instead of going to the palace, he left the city, exclaiming, "*Es un corte sin gente*;" "it is a court without inhabitants."

Charles found himself obliged in his turn to withdraw his troops from the capital, and retired the 9th of November, 1709. The people, left to themselves, once more proclaimed Philip, and testified their joy by reiterated acclamations, and ringing all the bells of the city; the noise was heard by Charles himself in his retreat. The people set fire to the houses of the archduke's party, and publicly burnt the standard and effigy of that prince, as well as all the acts which had been passed in his name.

The joy of the people displayed itself more forcibly when Philip the Fifth re-entered Madrid the

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the 3d of December following; the streets were ornamented, the fireworks were without number, the illuminations general, the acclamations lively, sincere, and frequent; the people threw themselves in crowds before the king, and could not be satisfied with regarding him; they stopped him on his way, and the acclamations were repeated every moment; his march was so slow, that Philip was several hours passing through the city before he could arrive at his palace.

Extent and Situation. The number of boundaries of Madrid prove its successive increase. The first limits were very narrow, and not extended beyond the neighbourhood of the king's palace; the last walls had not a sixth part of the extent of the present; they were built from the gate of Segovia, along the side of St. Francis, to St. André, and from thence to Caba Baxa, the Puerta Cerrada, Lacaba de San Michael, as far as the Puerta de Guadalaxara. They went from hence to Cannos del Perral, where, turning towards the little place where the ancient gate of Balnadu formerly stood, it extended to the place where the treasury now is, went round the palace, which was situated in the same place as at present, and continued towards the Puerta de la Vega, and terminated at that of Segovia. It is true there were several suburbs which are comprized in the present boundaries; the most considerable were those of St. Francis, St. Martin, and St. Gines, but did not extend beyond the place now called Puerta del Sol. An immense space was left which now forms part of Madrid, and is, if not the largest, at least the best built and inhabited.

Madrid stands on several low hills near each other, in the midst of a plain of immense extent, bounded, on the side of Old Castile, by the mountains of Guadariama, and seems to

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to have no boundaries at any other side but the horizon. This plain is dry, parched up, naked, without trees, uneven, and disagreeable; the situation of the city is very high above the level of the sea; you continually ascend for a space of one hundred leagues, from the Mediterranean; and the stream which waters the city joins the Tagus, and, together with that river, empties itself into the ocean.

The position is very convenient for the government of the kingdom; it is almost in the centre of Spain, and equally within reach of the distant provinces; a hundred leagues from the frontiers of France on the side of Bayonne, one hundred and twenty leagues from the same frontier on the side of Roussillon, one hundred leagues from the frontier of Portugal, and the same distance from that part of Spain bounded by the straits of Gibraltar.

Division. The present extent of Madrid is forty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three feet, or two leagues in circumference; the shape is square; there are fifteen gates, five hundred and six streets, forty-two squares, large and small, seven thousand three hundred and ninety-eight houses, one hundred and thirty-three churches, convents, colleges, seminaries or hospitals, sixty-five public edifices, seventeen fountains, and several promenades; it is divided into eight districts, each district into eight wards, to each of which an alcade is attached, a sort of commissary of police, who is chosen annually from among the inhabitants.

Population. The population of Madrid was formerly immense, if we may believe some writers. Moncada complained, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, of the depopulation of this city; he supposed it then amounted to four hundred thousand inhabitants. This must certainly be a mistake. Madrid was never so large as at present; and it is difficult, not to say impossible, to suppose it could contain an equal population. Ustariz, who wrote at the end of the same century, is much more moderate, he computes it at one

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one hundred and eighty thousand inhabitants. It now contains, according to the account of 1788, one hundred and fifty-six thousand two hundred and seventy-two souls, among which they reckon five hundred and seventy-six priests, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two monks, eight hundred and twenty nuns, one hundred and eighty-three servitors and ministers of churches, eight thousand six hundred and eighteen nobles, five hundred and ninety-five advocates, two hundred and fifty-seven clerks, seven hundred and twenty-seven students, and seventeen thousand two hundred and seventy-three domestics. However, including the garrison, which consists of from eight to ten thousand, foreigners, and Spaniards who come from the provinces, the population may amount to two hundred thousand people. The number of deaths in 1788, was five thousand nine hundred and fifteen, the births four thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven. In 1797 the deaths were reckoned to be four thousand four hundred and forty-one, and births four thousand nine hundred and eleven.

Squares. The Plazuela de Anton Martin is in the street of Atocha, near the Prado; it is of moderate size and irregular; in fact it is nothing but a wider part of the street, and has a large fountain, ornamented with very bad taste.

The place de la Sabada is very large, and would be handsome if well built; but the houses are without taste or symmetry; it is adorned with a fountain, and an allegorical statue of plenty.

The place de los Canos del Peral, on which the Italian Opera-house is situated, is near the king's palace, and is larger than the former, but equally ill built.

The place of the palace is large, handsome, and almost square; it is decorated on one side by the front of the palace, on the other stands the arsenal, a large but plain building; the third is nothing but barracks, a disagreeable object; and the fourth is entirely open. This square might be

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be made very elegant, if the arsenal was ornamented so as to correspond with the front of the palace, and a handsome building erected in the place of barracks: the fourth side laid out as a terrace, would be very handsome, from the beauty and extent of the view on the Manzanarez and the neighbouring country; but this square is so large that it would still appear bare in the middle, unless it was embellished with trees, fountains, or statues.

The square of the mansion house is small, but regular and well ornamented on one side with the front of the mansion house; it is furnished with a fountain, where four lions, spouting water through their throats, support a castle, on the top of which a woman, in a military habit, bears a standard in her hands. These ornaments are emblematical of the arms of Castile and Leon. A tower is still to be seen in this square, and now belongs to a private house, formerly called De Los Luganes, which served for a prison to Francis the First, before this prince was carried to the Alcazar, or the royal palace; a transaction which ought to be blotted out of the annals of Spain, as dishonourable to the sovereign, who thus abused the victory of his generals, and but little analogous to the greatness of soul and generosity of the Spanish nation.

The Puerta del Sol is not properly a square, but it deserves the name of one; it is in the form of a star, from whence five of the most handsome streets in Madrid, those of Montera, Las Carretas, Alcala, La Calle Mayor, and La Carrera de San Jeronimo, diverge. This place is large, gay, lively, and ornamented with a handsome circular fountain, embellished with well built houses, especially the new post office. It is the most frequented part of Madrid, and the rendezvous for the idle, the curious, and the collectors of news.

The Plaza Mayor is nearer the centre of the city, and forms a long regular rectangular area; it is three hundred and seventy-

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seventy-three feet long and two hundred and eighty-seven broad; the sides are ornamented with piazzas, supported by pillars of freestone, over which are the houses; they are all five stories high, with five rows of windows all in the same line, about five hundred in number, and provided with iron balconies, all alike. There are none of the decorations of the fine arts, except the house of La Panaderia, but there is something striking in this symmetry and uniformity: the coup d'œil is very agreeable; in summer all the windows are shaded with curtains, thrown across the balconies. La Casa Real de la Panaderia stands in the middle of one of the sides, and is the situation which the royal family occupy at the public spectacles; the front answers to the decoration of the place, though it is ornamented with twenty-four pillars of freestone, of the Doric order, with the arms of Spain in the middle; the wings are formed of two small towers, furnished with paintings; the court is provided with a fountain of a very bad style of architecture, on the top of which is placed a good statue of Diana, executed in marble.

The streets which take their direction from this place are not worthy of it; they are disposed without regularity or uniformity. A handsome fountain, or some trophy in honour of the king, ought to have been placed in the middle.

The square is the most populous and best frequented place in Madrid, the centre of commerce, and particularly of retail trade. It is likewise the place where public fêtes are given, and is at that time very grand; the slightest decorations have an effect, from their uniformity and number, and are placed in even rows to the tops of the houses; the illuminations form lines of fire, which are raised as high as the parapets of the edifices; the balconies, filled by an immense number of people, give it an imposing appearance. The whole is majestic, especially when the court celebrates any important event, such as the marriage of the king, or the coronation, with bull fights. The greatest magnificence is then displayed,

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played, the decorations are very rich, all the splendour, nobility, and grandeur of the court are exhibited, the diplomatic body, and the persons attached to the palace, manifest the greatest luxury; it is impossible to conceive a finer or more interesting spectacle,

This square is very subject to fire. In 1672 the front of the Panaderia was burnt; that of the arch of Toledo was destroyed in the beginning of the eighteenth century, and a second time in the month of August, 1790; the fire burnt with inconceivable rapidity; in a few hours a part of the front of the shambles, as far as the arch of Toledo, and almost all that on the side of the palace, was entirely consumed. They had not begun to rebuild it in the month of April, 1792.

Streets and Quarters. Madrid is well laid out, though there are many narrow and crooked streets, but they are almost all within the ancient boundary, which was not considerable; the greater number are handsome, and there are some which would do honour to the finest cities in Europe. La Calle ancha San Bernardo, or the large street of St. Bernard, is one of the most remarkable, but is little frequented. The streets of Hortalesa, Fuencarral, Toledo, Mantua, las Carretas, del Principe, Atocha, del Prado, the Calle Mayor, and the Carrera San Jeronimo, are fine, long, broad, direct, and well built; that of Alcala, where you arrive through the gate of the same name, is beyond all the others in beauty: it is disposed in a straight line for a considerable extent, from the Prado to the Puerta del Sol; it is broad enough to admit ten carriages abreast, and would be very elegant if it was level, and the houses good, and of an equal width in all its extent; the houses are not high in proportion to the breadth of the street.

The streets are paved with sharp stones, unpleasant, and painful to those who are not used to them; they have taken care to lay down a pavement on each side, though it is too narrow for more than one person to pass at a time. The streets

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streets are extremely clean, few towns indeed pay so much attention to this object; they are well lighted by lamps placed on both sides over the houses, opposite each other, at equal and short distances; this illumination has a very pretty effect in the grand streets.

Remarkable private edifices. This city is in general well built; the houses, without displaying much magnificence or luxury of architecture, have an agreeable appearance, especially in the large streets. You must not expect to find here those superb mansions which generally announce the residence of the great. Most of the grandees have common looking houses, not by any means remarkable, without any exterior decorations, with low gates, plain staircases, and the greater number without courts; they are only distinguished from private houses by their extent. Some, however, are worthy of observation, for instance, the hotel de Berwick, which, as a whole, is noble and imposing; that of Altamira, in the Calle Ancha de San Bernardo, where they have united elegance of decoration with beauty of architecture; that of Veraguas, belonging to the descendants of Christopher Columbus, of which the fine architecture is embellished with ornaments, tastily disposed.

The interior of the houses of the great are more handsomely and magnificently furnished; some of them contain chef d'œuvres of the fine arts; those of the families of Infantado, Onate, Villafranca, Pio, Santa Cruz, Santiago, Pacheco, and Iriarte, have some excellent paintings and sculptures; the house of Alva also possesses many, and among others the famous portrait of Ferdinand Alvarez de Toledo, duke of Alva, by Titian; several fine pictures by Teniers; a most beautiful Venus, by Corregio, which is esteemed one of the finest pieces in Europe; those of the house of Medina Coeli are particularly worthy of notice; it is a valuable collection, assembled in a large hall, to which another, not less interesting, of ancient armour, is

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added; they are shewn to the curious, as well as a library in another room, which is open to the public every day.

Clergy. The city of Madrid is in the diocese of Toledo; and the spiritual administration is directed by the grand vicar of that city; a bishop *in partibus infidelium*, auxiliary to the archbishop, also resides there, with the powers of that prelate.

They reckon in Madrid fifteen parishes and six chapels of ease. Every parish has a clergy, more or less numerous, in possession of the benefices, who are obliged to reside there, except that of St. Martin, which is regular, and is served by Benedictines; the chapel of ease of St. Ildefonso is also regular.

There are twenty monasteries of mendicant friars, five houses of Benedictines, Bernardins, Jeronimites, and St. Basil, one of Prémontrés, two of Oratorians, and priests of the mission, seven houses of regular clergy, twenty-six convents of nuns, nine oratories or private chapels, five béatures, sixteen colleges, eighteen hospitals, and the chapel royal of St. Isidore, in which a clergy, consisting of a grand chaplain, a vicar, twenty-four royal chaplains, two sub chanters, thirteen chaplains of the altar, and choristers, a collector, five sextons, and ten acolytes perform the service. There was also a house of the order of St. Anthony, which was suppressed in 1791. The colleges and hospitals have all their private churches or chapels, and priests to officiate.

Each of the convents also has priests, who serve the churches and chapels: the number is considerable. That of the Salesas, or the Visitation, has ten, that of the Incarnation twenty-six, but that of the Descalsas has more than any other; there is one chaplain major, fifteen chaplains musicians, six chaplains of the altar, a master of the ceremonies, and three vestry priests, besides a great number of subaltern assistants, such as organists, acolytes, choristers, and musicians

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The consequence is, that the number of churches and chapels at Madrid is very great and the clergy numerous. The former amount to 133, and the ground they occupy, particularly the convents, is immense. The following table presents an account of the clergy, regular as well as secular.

TABLE *of the Clergy at Madrid.*

Secular clergy *			vicars		14	
			priests serving chapels of ease		5	
			clergy of St. Isidore		41	
			priests beneficed and attached to parishes		157	395
			priests of convents		125	
			priests of oratories and chapels		9	
			priests of colleges		26	
			priests of hospitals		18	
Regular clergy	monks	assemblies	oratorians	90	35	
			missionaries	15		
		regular clergy	theatins	34	273	
			fathers of agony	77		
			minors	85		
			of the school of Christ	77		
		regular canons	Norbertines	26	35	
		solitary	Benedictines	75	192	1894
			Bernardines	28		
			Jeronomites	43		
			Fathers of St. Basil	46		
		mendicants	Dominicans	150	1359	
			Franciscans	322		
			Capucins	131		
			Augustines	184		
			Carmelites	145		
			Trinitarians	130		
			Fathers of Mercy	183		
			Minimes	67		
			St. John	47		
	nuns		Dominicans	65		824
			Franciscans	161		
			Augustines	85		
			Jeronomites	51		
			Bernardines	77		
			Carmelites	87		
			Trinitarians	30		
			of Mercy	75		
			St. Francis de Sales	97		
			Capucins	31		
			Benedictines	29		
			St. James	15		
			of Calatrava	16		3113
			of Charity	65		

* Neither the priests attached to the court and chapel royal, forty-one in number, nor the priests belonging to the ecclesiastical tribunals, are comprehended here; neither are the clergy of the parishes of the royal houses of Madrid, nor a great number of priests attached to private houses.

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Tribunals. Madrid is the seat of several ecclesiastical tribunals, among which are those of la Rote and the apostolic Annunciation, those of la Cruzada, pious works of Gracia y Excusado, of the pious fund of benefices, of the supreme tribunal of the inquisition, and of the ecclesiastical court of the armies: there is besides a prerogative court of the archbishop of Toledo, and a tribunal of the examiners of synods.

Hospitals. The establishments of public beneficence in this city are numerous.

There are two grand hospitals for the reception of the infirm of all sexes, ages, and nations. The general hospital is intended for the accommodation of the men; that of the Passion for the women: they receive both men and women in that of Anton Martin, maintained by the monks of charity. The parish of St. Martin has an excellent hospital for its own poor, and the tiers order of St. Francis an infirmary. The court also is at the expence of a hospital, called Good Success, for the domestics of the royal family.

The number of infirm and dead in 1788, 1794, and 1797, is as follows:

	Infirm in 1788	Infirm in 1794	Infirm in 1797
In the general hospital	13239	11264	15318
In the hospital of Passion	4038	4185	4991
In the hospital of Anton Martin	2090	2702	3482
	19367	18151	23791
	Deaths in 1788	**Deaths in 1794**	**Deaths in 1797**
In the general hospital	526	1416	1685
In the hospital of Passion	63	817	802
In the hospital of Anton Martin	78	32	45
	667	2265	2532

Different nations and provinces in Spain also have particular hospitals. There is one for the French, one for the Italians, and another for the Irish; Navarre, Biscay, and the

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the provinces of Aragon, have each one; but all these hospitals tend but little to answer the end for which they were established.

There are several buildings which afford an asylum to individuals of different ages and classes; two for foundlings of both sexes, at Notre Dame de Los Desemparados and in the hospital of La Inclusa; females are received at Nuestra Senora de la Paz; orphans of distinguished birth at St. Elizabeth; orphans of all classes at St. Ildefonso; and priests of all nations in the hospital of St. Peter; that of St. Catherine de Los Donados is built as an asylum for twelve decayed gentlemen.

Another hospital, under the name of the hospital of the court of St. Ferdinand, was established by queen Mary of Austria, and affords an asylum to a crowd of individuals; they receive the infirm and poor of all sexes and ages; they maintain and take care of those who are unable to work, and employ the others, especially the girls, in spinning, sewing, and making tissues of wool, stockings, blond and other lace, and several other works.

Associations of benevolence. The are several associations in Madrid to succour the indigent and unfortunate; there is a charitable institution, consisting of the members of the municipality, members of the economical society, and some ecclesiastics; another charitable establishment, supported by ladies, which affords assistance to women confined in prison and houses of seclusion; a bank of piety, the principal object of which is to make loans to the indigent *; and two combinations, whose funds are destined for the succour of the necessitous; they give particular assistance to the poor, send them to the baths, get them received into the hospitals, and procure them attendance at their own houses; they provide for the maintenance of orphans, furnish help

* It assisted in 1794 ten thousand persons, and employed 2,532,720 reals, or 633,120 French livres, about 26,380 *l.* sterling.

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to those burnt out of their houses, and lying-in women; they maintain the poor students in the universities and colleges: these combinations are those of Notre Dame de l'Esperance * and Notre Dame du Refuge †.

Administration. Madrid has a military governor, who bears the honours of captain-general of a province, a major, two aid de camps, and a garrison, generally consisting of two battalions of Spanish and Walloon guards, one regiment of dragoons, a regiment of Madrid volunteers, also cavalry and three regiments of infantry.

This city is the seat of the royal council, the supreme council of Castile, the tribunal of the alcade de Corte, and several other tribunals relating to the different branches of administration, commerce, finances, the mines, couriers, posts, and roads, the tribunal of Protomedicat, &c. The police consists of a high corregidor, two lieutenant corregidors, and eight alcades de Corte; it has an intendant of its own, a certain number of regidors, who administer justice, an auditor for war, and a public mint. The police is under the superintendance of different magistrates. The cognizance of summary causes devolves on the alcades of Barrio; questions of greater importance are referred to the alcades de Corte, each in his particular district; but the general or public administration of affairs is committed to a comptroller of the police, originally amenable only to his sovereign, till in 1792 he was placed under the jurisdiction of the council of Castile.

Public Instruction. In Spain the instruction of youth was engrossed by the Jesuits, whose expulsion seemed to subvert the whole system of public education. To supply this deficiency Charles the Third established, in 1770, a new and enlarged plan, by which the charge of youth is committed

* It laid out in 1794 57,400 reals or 14,350 French livres.

† The expences of this establishment in 1794 amounted to 574,166 reals, or 143,500 livres of 15 sous.

to

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to a certain number of secular priests; who, in one of the houses formerly occupied by the Jesuits, superintend the college of St. Isidore. In this munificent establishment are included sixteen masters and professors, three for the Latin language, three for the Greek, Hebrew, and Arabic, a professor of rhetoric; another for poetry, another for literature; another for logic, another for experimental philosophy, another for moral philosophy, two for mathematical tutors, a professor for jurisprudence civil and political, and a professor for ecclesiastical discipline. There is also a library, superintended by two librarians. There is another college exclusively appropriated to the instruction of the young nobility, in which a hundred and eighteen boys are educated; they are divided into seven classes, (one of them is the French class) and attended by twenty-one masters for French and English, Greek and Latin, the Oriental languages, history, geography, rhetoric, poetry, logic, experimental philosophy, the mathematics, tactics, law, and jurisprudence.

Philip the Fourth had established a political chair, which was afterwards abolished. Charles the Third instituted a botanical class, to which has since been added a course of chemistry, a college of surgery, with eight professors, a professor of anatomy, a school for practical medicine, and another for cosmographic engineers; there are also several public seminaries for the education of girls. Young females are admitted to the college of Monterey, to that of St. Antonio los Portugueses and to the Salesas, which is considered the best seat of education; the house of Notre Dame of Loretto is for destitute orphans; the house of St. Elizabeth and Leganez for girls of distinguished birth. Exclusive of these there is the king's college, in which children are qualified to become musicians to the royal chapel; and a school for mechanics, in which the pupils are particularly initiated into the mysteries of watch-making: this institution is under the superintendance of the brethern Charost.

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Of Academies. There is an ample number at Madrid. There is one for the Latin language, which is, properly speaking, but a school. There are four for jurisprudence, and another for medicine, of no little consideration; an academy for history; a Spanish academy; the academy of San Fernando; and an economical society. It is only in the four last that any useful end has been obtained. It is the object of the economical society, established in 1775, to excite industry, by fostering the arts, and promoting agriculture. An association of ladies has also been formed, with the laudable design of concurring in its multifarious labours.

The Spanish academy was founded, in 1714, by Philip the Fifth, in imitation of the French academy, with the avowed object of cultivating the purity and elegance of the Spanish language, and of regulating its grammar and orthography; the most remarkable fruits of its labours has been the publication of a dictionary, sanctioned by its authority. The academy for history, instituted in 1735, by the same prince, is engaged in the elucidation of the most obscure and difficult passages, in Spanish history in connexion with geography and chronology. It is furnished with a library, a good collection of medals, stones, crowns and various coins; but its most valuable possession is a series of charts, diplomas, and other municipal documents, chronologically arranged, as conferred by royal privilege at various periods on the towns, villages, communities, churches, chapters, and monasteries of Spain.

The academy of St. Fernando, devoted to painting, sculpture, and architecture originated in the munificence of Philip the Fifth. In this liberal institution instructions are given in each of these departments, and moderate premiums distributed every third year to such young students as have produced the best specimens of proficiency in the arts. The society is in possession of a valuable collection of paintings, plans, designs, engravings, statues, and other pieces of sculpture. It also maintains a certain number of pupils at Rome,

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Rome, where, it is presumed, the young artist may be led to form his taste by the exquisite models of classical antiquities.

Library. The royal library, formed in 1712, originally contained only such books, medals, and antiquities as had been preserved in the king's palace. The number of the books, &c. was gradually augmented, and twenty years ago had accumulated to an hundred thousand printed volumes, exclusive of a large collection of manuscripts, a variety of modern medals, a fine selection of antiques, referring to the western and eastern empires, including Greek, Roman, and Gothic coins, and exhibiting the various impressions of kings, towns, and colonies. A magnificent accession was lately made to it in the library of cardinal Arquinto, which was purchased for the king at Rome. These apartments are, with laudable liberality, constantly open to the public, except on holidays. The library was long superintended by the learned don Francis Perez, that respectable ecclesiastic, whose eulogium is pronounced in his name, who was not merely a scholar, but a friend to scholars, and who added to his many extraordinary attainments as an orientalist and a classical student, the most munificent spirit for the encouragement of merit, and the promotion of science, a sound judgment, an enlightened policy, with genuine piety, and unsullied integrity.

The cabinet of natural history was formed by Charles the Third, and originally consisted of little more than such curiosities as had been collected by a private individual, don Pedro Francis Avila, during his residence at Paris. This cabinet was presented to the king, it has since received valuable accessions, and is at present enriched with curious productions from each quarter of the globe; those of Spanish America occupy the first place; those of European Spain are no less distinguished. This cabinet is also open to the public twice a week. The highest praise is due to don Eugenio Izquierdo, its superintendant, for the order, neatness, and propriety so conspicuous in the various arrangements.

Curious

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Curious edifices. It is not in Madrid that the antiquary will discover the treasure of departed ages; it existed not at those remote eras which form the most interesting epochs of enquiry; nor is it here that the luxuries of taste are presented to a lover of the arts. The churches exhibit not those rich stores of painting and architecture which in some parts of Spain they are found to possess. In their structure few of them present any thing to engage attention, and it is but rarely they contain any precious relics of the arts.

In St. Jerome's church the gate is richly ornamented with Gothic sculpture; in the same taste is the nave, which is large and beautiful, but unfortunately disfigured by the choir, which darkens the entrance door, by being placed above it, and thus destroys all the effects of grandeur and solemnity that it ought to produce. Some of the chapels are not without fine paintings. In St. John's there are beautiful specimens of Doric architecture, marbles of various shades, and an ample display of magnificence and taste; many of the monuments in this church are worthy of notice, particularly that of Torelo Castigliolio it St. Martha's chapel, and that of count Kevenaller in the cloister, both recommended by the natural richness of the materials, the neatness of the labour, the correct design, and masterly execution.

St. Isidore's church presents a noble front, formed of three half columns of the Composite order and of two pilasters of the same order, thrown back; these support a cornice surmounted by a balustrade; a tower, which is still unfinished, rises above the pilasters; in the centre are three large doors, and over them the statue of St. Isidore. The church is large, its nave is beautiful and well proportioned, adorned with pilasters of the Composite order, between which are inserted statutes of the saints. Above the transepts is constructed a dome of magnificent amplitude, but gilded too coarsely, and rather disfigured than beautified by its fresco paintings. The chancel is embellished with pilasters; the entablature is Corinthian;

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rithian; the arched roof exhibits correct taste. The principal altar is construced of wood; it has a fine picture of the Trinity, by Antony Raphael Mengs. There are several good pieces of painting contained in some of the chapels and cloisters; the life of St. Francis Xavier is delineated in the lower cloister by Paul de Matteis; in the upper cloister are several portraits of holy hermits, and a portrait of Simon de Vos; on the staircase there is a piece by Cornelius Shut, of St. Francis Xavier baptising the Indians.

The church of the Mendicant Friars is one of the largest in Madrid; it is built in the shape of a latin cross; its dome is painted in fresco by Michael Colonna. Of the many paintings in the chancel and the cloisters, there are some not unworthy of attention. The statue of St. Raimond by Gregory Hernandez, is executed with much elegance and taste. In the transept there is a fine monument constructed of various marbles, with two recumbent statues, which represent Fernando Cortez, the grandson of the conqueror of New Spain, and his wife Mencia de la Cerda.

In the parochial church of St. Andrew there is nothing remarkable but St. Isidore's chapel; it is surrounded by a plinth of marble, and divided into two compartments; the first is quadrangular, and ornamented with pilasters raised above the plinth, and coated with stucco; the compartment is octagonal, and supported on twelve columns of black marble, with gilded capitels of the Corinthian order, raised on pedestals of the same marble; it is surmounted by a cupola, highly ornamented, but in too gaudy a taste. Various marbles are exhibited in the construction of the altar, which stands in the centre; it has four sides, each formed of an arch, supported by columns of the Composite order, and raised on pilasters. Of the numerous pictures preserved in this chapel, there are but four that possess particular merit; these are placed in the first compartment of the chapel, and refer to passages in the life of St. Isidore; two of these pieces are

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are by Francis Ricci, and two by John Correño. The beauty of this chapel is considerably impaired by the complexity and showy character of its ornaments.

The Capilla del Obispo, or bishop's chapel, contains the monument of Gutierrez de Vargos y Carvajal, bishop of Placentia, who died in 1556; the materials are rich, and embellished with the most elaborate ornament. The tomb is placed in a large nich, the walls of which are wrought in flowers. On each side is a medallion fancifully decorated, exhibiting a group of youthful choristers, playing on different instruments, and supporting a female figure, who appears leaning on her arm, in the attitude of grief. On each medallion are placed two pedestals, the one supports a little delicate figure, the other a column of the Ionic order; another Ionic column, of smaller dimensions, is supported by a group of children. In a second compartment, adorned with correspondent columns, appears a small figure, expressive of despair. An alcove, hung with tapestry exquisitely embroidered, occupies the central part; a cushion is placed on it, supporting the statue of the bishop, who, in his pontifical habiliments, is represented kneeling before a table, which is supported by three columns and a central pillar, having a small statue on each side. Behind the bishop's statue are those of his almoner, and two ecclesiastics, clothed in their surplices, each bearing the mitre and the cross. In the back ground, in bas relief, is a representation of Christ praying in the garden of olives. In its other parts, the monument is encumbered with a multitude of angelic figures, and a variety of fantastic ornaments.

The church of the Incarnation is of the Ionic order, and one of the handsomest in Madrid; the principal altar is constructed of various marbles, and exhibits a profusion of magnificence. We behold here the rich veins of the Tortosa, the yellow tints of the Cuenca, the green shades of Granada, the polished jaspers of Lanjuron, Naquera, Espeja, and

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and Malaga. There are four large Corinthian columns, supported on correspondent pilasters, between which is a picture of the Annunciation, by Vincent Carducho; two angels form the attic. The tabernacle is in the form of a small square temple, terminated by a cupola, adorned with six small Corinthian columns, corresponding with six angels placed on the cornice; two doctors of the church are seated at their sides; the sculptural decorations, the bases of the columns, and their capitols, are bronze, stained with water gold.

The church of the Norbertins is fronted by a piazza jutting out in a semicircular form, and approached by three gates; the middle gate is flanked by four Ionic columns; a second row rises beyond the piazza, which is surmounted by the statue of St. Norbert; parallel with this front are two towers, one on each side; the steeple, from whence the bells are suspended, is adorned with Corinthian columns.

The church del Salvador is remarkable only for its altar, which is of admirable architecture; it consists of four Composite columns of green marble, between which is a beautiful bas relief, representing a St. Francis floating on clouds and sustained by angels.

St. Martin's church contains nothing valuable but the tabernacle of silver, one hundred and thirty-nine marks * in weight, destined to receive the holy sacrament; it is divided into three hexagonal compartments, one over the other, each adorned with twelve double columns; the first compartment consists of Corinthian columns, the pedestals are covered with bas reliefs, illustrative of sacred history; six niches, placed on the impost, exhibit an allegorical representation of the six sacraments; the eucharist, to which the tabernacle is destined, forms the seventh; two figures, intended to represent saints, appear kneeling before the sacrament; the frieze is covered with fantastic ornaments, and

* A mark is about eight ounces.

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the cornice is filled with groups of angels and their appropriate instruments of music. The second compartment is little different from the first; the columns are Composite; the figures on the niches above the impost represent the virtues; within appears St. Martin on horseback. The third compartment varies from the others only in being less elevated, having obelisks on its cornice, and the statue of St. Benedict. The whole is surmounted by an hexagonal dome, which terminates in a cupola.

The convent of the Carmelites and the church of St. Paul contain some admirable paintings.

The church of Descalzas Reales has one of the finest altars in Madrid; it presents three compartments, the first of which is composed of four Ionic columns, placed on pedestals embellished with figures of the apostles in bas reliefs; a picture of the Assumption is in the centre. The second compartment is of four Composite columns, between which are placed a Crucifix in the middle and a Holy Virgin and a St. John on either side. The third forms a nich with a frontispiece, and a Resurrection in the centre.

In this church was interred Joanna of Austria, daughter of Charles the First, widow of John, king of Portugal, and mother of king Sebastian; this princess founded the convent. Her tomb is in a chapel on the left side of the principal altar; it is elegantly constructed of marble; the statue of the princess, in an attitude of devotion, rests on a pedestal; the chapel is adorned with Ionic pilasters of marble.

The church of the Visitation, commonly called Las Salesas, was erected in the reign of Ferdinand the Sixth, who, in conjunction with his queen Barbara, superintended the undertaking. The front of this church presents pilasters of the Composite order, with many decorations in bas relief; it is approached by a court, constructed like a piazza, and inclosed by an iron grate.

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The church is adorned with Corinthian pilasters. Its dome is painted in fresco; the principal altar is formed of six beautiful columns of green Granada marble, each consisting of a single block, fourteen feet seven inches in height, crowned with Corinthian capitols of bronze, the whole surmounted by an attic, which presents, in bass relief, a medallion of St. Francis Sales, placed between two allegorical statues of Faith and Charity; to render this altar beautiful, nothing is wanting but a more judicious disposition of the marbles and a happy assimilation of their various tints and shades. The other altars of this church are also decorated with Corinthian columns, supported on pilasters with gilded capitols. The church and the chancel contain some valuable paintings.

Among the monuments are those of the illustrious founders, each distinguished by a suitable inscription; that of queen Barbara is in the choir, that of Ferdinand in the chancel; the former is embellished with figures of children and medallions; the latter is in an ample nich, the clef of which is formed by the arms of Spain, supported by a child and by an image of Fame. It consists of a lamb, which is supported by two lions, wrought in bronze, and resting on a pedestal; the figures of Justice and Plenty appear on either side. The tomb is adorned with bass reliefs, representing the three arts of painting, sculpture, and architecture, protected by the sovereign; it is in part covered with a loose drapery, one end of which is raised by a child, whilst another child, holding in his hand a sword, contemplates the scene. In the back ground, behind the lamb, rises a kind of pyramid, with a figure of Time, who with one hand sustains, and with the other points to the medallion of Ferdinand.

Various are the opinions respecting this church, which has been equally the subject of unqualified censure and unlimited praise. It was erected at an immense expence, which

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which, in the public estimation, was not sufficiently sanctified by its object; it is therefore more frequently mentioned with ridicule than approbation. The palpable errors in the design and execution are often stigmatized in the popular quibble of barbara reyna, barbara obra, barbaro gasto, which, in allusion to the name of its foundress, signifies a barbarous queen, a barbarous work, a barbarous taste.

The Saladero is a large edifice, with no higher destination than the salting of pork, in which every thing is collected for this useful, economical process. The front is simple, but large and noble; it embellishes the entrance of Madrid by St. Barbara's gate, near which it is situated.

The quarter of the life guards is the finest building in Madrid; its court and gate are towards the west; a tower stands at each extremity; the front is disfigured by injudicious ornaments; the interior contains accommodations for the life guards, comprizing three large courts, and stables for six or seven hundred horses.

The Franciscan gate, erected under Ferdinand the Sixth, consists of a large arch, embellished on both sides by four double Doric columns; it is surmounted by an attic of a triangular form, presenting the arms and trophies of Spain; two small gates open on each side, which present long inscriptions, and are crowned with a balustrade.

St. Vincent's gate is behind the palace, and leads to the beautiful promenade on the shore of the Manzanarez; it was constructed in 1757. It is a large arch, embellished on the outside by two Doric columns, and in the interior by two pilasters of the same order; it is surmounted by a cornice, over which is raised a triangular attic, which terminates in a military trophy; on either side is a smaller square door, crowned also with trophies. The construction of this gate discovers considerable taste.

The gate of Alcala is wholly modern; it consists of five entrances, three of which are in the middle, formed by three

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three elevated arches, and two smaller ones on either side. On the exterior it is adorned by six Ionic columns, four of which are placed two and two on each side of the arch, which appears in the centre; the other two are placed singly, one on each side, and connected with the collateral arches; their capitals are similar to those designed by Michael Angelo for the capitol of Rome. In the centre appears an attic; above the cornice are exhibited the arms of Spain, supported by an image of fame, and bordered with triumphal trophies; the interior decorations are in a similar taste, with this difference, that four pilasters are here substituted for the six columns; the ornaments are also less multifarious. The height of this gate, without including the arms, is sixty feet four inches; each of the arches includes fourteen feet seven inches in breadth, twenty-nine feet two inches in height, the whole fabric is of free-stone; as a single object it is beautiful; it appears a triumphal arch, in which elegance is combined with dignity and magnificence; but when viewed in connection with the streets of Alcala, to which it leads, and with which it forms an oblique line, it presents an irregularity that creates disgust in the spectator.

The Custom-house, another modern edifice, erected in 1769, surrounded by houses, is also in the street of Alcala. It presents a square front, the height of which greatly exceeds the breadth; the first compartment is embellished by five gates, three of which are arched and lofty, the other two square and smaller; the three former support balconies raised on modillons, which are terminated by the heads of Satyrs, and the Caryatides, and are surrounded with balustrades of free-stone. In the upper compartment there are four rows of windows, those of the upper story are surmounted by attics, alternately triangular and semicircular; over the central window is suspended the royal escutcheon, supported by two figures of fame, in marble.

The Academy of St. Fernando and the Cabinet of Natural History are in one edifice contiguous to the custom-house;

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originally it was an ancient structure; the front has since been modernized, the gate is adorned with two fluted Doric columns, which support a balcony.

The Casa de Correos, or Post-house, was lately erected on the Puerto del Sol. It is a large square structure, isolated from all other buildings, and wears a noble and imposing aspect. It presents a large court, surrounded by a piazza which rests on columns. Unfortunately it stands on uneven ground. To reach the court you must ascend a flight of steps, and this necessarily produces an irregularity unpleasing to the eye.

The Carcel de Corte, or State Prison, was erected under Philip the Fourth in the street Atocha, near the Plaza Mayor. This edifice is so beautiful that even its iron-grated windows can scarcely suggest an idea of its terrific object. It consists but of one story, on which are two rows of windows. It is surmounted by a kirb roof, on each side of which rises a tower somewhat more elevated. The roof opens by three windows, one over the other, and terminates with a needle supporting a globe, and an arrow in the manner of a cross. The upper compartment supports two statues at its two extremities. It is surmounted by a third compartment, embellished with the arms of Spain, and with several angelic figures. This edifice is at once simple and noble; in 1791 it sustained a severe injury from a violent fire, but has since been completely repaired.

The Casa del Ayuntamiento, or Town-house, stands in the Plaza of that name. It is a long rectangular building, terminated at its four angles by four towers, tolerably well built. The principal court is adorned with pilasters; the staircase is handsome; the chapel contains several fine paintings by Antony Palomino; within its cells is kept a large tabernacle of silver, in which the sacrament is carried in sacred processions; it has two compartments; the first consists of eight Corinthinian columns, supported on pedestals, with neat

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heat appropriate ornaments at their extremities; these support arches which form a vault, embellished with similar ornaments; four angelic figures, one on each side, are placed above; a cornice extends along the four sides, supporting four doctors of the church, encircled by angelic figures in bass relief; the second compartment forms a kind of small round temple, adorned with eight double columns, surmounted by a cornice, which supports four infantine figures; in the centre is an ascension of Jesus Christ, and above it a celestial globe, on which is laid a cross; a second smaller tabernacle is placed under the vault of the first compartment; this has also its two parts, each distinguished by eight double columns, adorned with fine bass reliefs, and angelic figures.

The Palacio de los Consejos, or Council-house, originally a private mansion, is now the seat of a supreme tribunal. In this edifice magnificence is so happily blended with elegance, that it is perhaps entitled to pre-eminence over every other in Madrid. It consists of a ground floor, and two stories on the principal side towards the north, and two other stories towards the south. The grand front presents a large symmetrical building, the two extremities of which form, in a manner, projecting pavillions, which are no higher than the body of the edifice; there are twelve windows, and two large doors on the ground floor, fourteen windows on the first story, and ten latticed windows on the second; on the ground floor they are crowned by triangular attics, on the first story by such as are semicircular, whilst those projecting over the two gates are adorned with two Ionic columns, and an escutcheon; the two doors are each flanked with two Doric columns. The south front terminates also with projecting pavillions; it has five rows of windows on the ground floor, seven large windows on the first, second, and third stories, and fifteen smaller ones on the fourth. This edifice is at once regular, noble, and majestic.

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The Armeria real, or royal Magazine, though considerable in extent, is remarkable for its simplicity, and its exemption from ornaments. Its architecture is not entitled to much admiration, but it contains an invaluable collection of armours, which exhibit the style and usage of different periods. With the same glance you behold the arms worn by queen Isabella during the siege of Granada, and those of Chico, its last Moorish monarch; the armour in which Charles the Fifth was clad when he adventured on his calamitous expedition against Tunis, and the coat of mail which Philip received from his grandfather Louis the Fourteenth. In this armorial repository also are preserved an immense number of shields and bucklers. On one of these the provinces of Spanish America are exhibited in bass relief; in another is a representation of the conquest of New Spain, with an appropriate image of Hercules rending the columns, a Neptune also, and several correspondent figures; in a third is depicted a battle, and on the border are the figures of Pompey, Camillus, and Artemisa, with fruits disposed in the form of festoons, and the word *Carthagena*; a fourth exhibits also a battle in the centre, the figures of animals are traced on the sides, and martial trophies charactered on the border; a fifth illustrates mythological subjects, and among others the victory of Hercules over the Centaurs; a sixth is embellished with the collar of the golden fleece, and twenty-seven medals, of which twenty-six are disposed in a circle, whilst one is placed in the centre; a seventh, which was a present from pope Pius the Fifth to don John of Austria, has in the middle a silver image of Christ; the ornaments of these shields are generally carved or engraven. Here also are deposited bridles, stirrups, spurs, clubs, and other weapons; bashaw tails taken from the Turks, foreign standards, lances, arrows, halberts, fusees, pistols, and other fire arms, ancient and modern; a large number of antique swords, among others are exhibited those which are supposed to have belonged

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belonged to Pelargio, to the Cid, to Bernard del Carpio, Rolando, Francis the First, the Duke of Wiemar, and the celebrated Garcias of Paredes. On some of these are traced Gothic, Arabic, and German characters; some of the handles and scabbards are enriched with gold, silver, enamel, and precious stones; and many have received embellishments from the graver and the sculptor. In this miscellaneous arsenal there are, however, few weapons of more ancient origin than the fourteenth century.

The king's palace stands on an eminence at one of the extremities of Madrid, commanding a distant view of the beautiful country, which is watered by the Manzanarez. Its foundation is attributed to Alphon the Sixth, in the eleventh century; it was sacked by the Moors in 1109; it was afterwards destroyed by an earthquake, but repaired by Henry the Second, and completed by Henry the Fourth; it was greatly enlarged by Charles the Fifth, and his successors; but having been totally consumed by fire in 1734, was rebuilt on its present plan by Philip the Fifth, and Ferdinand the Sixth. It now forms a square, with four equal sides, about four hundred and four feet in breadth, and from the ground floor to the cornice eighty-six in height; it has projecting pavillions at the four angles, and another in the centre of the building, where stands the chapel; from the ground floor to the inpost of the edifice it is entirely constructed of free-stone, with no other ornament than the mouldings and borders of the windows, which are formed in projecting curves of white stone. On this foundation is raised a stately fabric, approximating to the Doric order, but, strictly speaking, belonging to none. The cornice is supported by semi-columns and pilasters; each of the projecting angles is adorned with six columns, four of which are duplicated; there are also four appended to the middle projection, which is separated by five pilasters on each side from the projections at the four angles. In the

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north front there are six columns placed at each of the projecting angles, eight columns attached to that which appears in the centre, and four pilasters on each side within the intermediate space. The chapters of the columns are Ionic; those of the pilasters Doric; their pedestals are raised to the elevation of the balconies.

On the east and western sides there are no doors; on the north side there is but one; on the south, which is the grand front, there are five, of these the three largest are placed in the centre, the two smaller on either side.

The first compartment presents on each side twenty-one large windows, and there are an equal number of small windows; in the second compartment there are three rows of windows; the first includes twenty-one, which are large; the second eighteen, which are small; the third twenty-one, of the middle size; for the four fronts there are four hundred and eight windows; those of the upper story are decorated with frontispieces alternately triangular and semicircular; three of the fronts are each embellished with triple balconies.

The cornice, which terminates this front, supports a balustrade of stone, broken at intervals by pedestals, placed on the perpendicular line of the columns and pilasters. Formerly a series of royal statues were arranged here, including all the kings of Spain from Atholpho to Ferdinand the Sixth; they have since been removed, and large vases, in the shape of urns, substituted in their place.

The doors of the principal front lead to a spacious vestibule, from whence, passing under a large piazza, you approach the grand staircase; these doors are each supported by a considerable number of pilasters and columns of an enormous volume.

In the centre of the palace is a large court about one hundred and twenty feet square, which is surrounded by a large and noble piazza raised on columns, over which is a gallery,

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gallery, embellished with Ionic columns; a balustrade of free-stone is raised above the cornice.

The ascent to the palace is by a large magnificent staircase. On the left of the piazza the steps are chequered with black and white marble, surrounded by a balustrade of the same materials; the first landing place is ornamented with two lions in white marble, placed on two pedestals; the railing of the staircase is embellished with columns of a fanciful Composite order, on the capitals of which are wrought the collars of the golden fleece, castles to denote the arms of Castile, and lions for those of Leon. The staircase leads to the entrance hall, where the guards are in constant attendance; the door is flanked by columns, and surmounted by a frontispiece of jasper marble.

This palace has been rendered completely substantial by the thickness of the walls, the depth of the foundations, the volume of the columns, and the solidity of the arches; every thing is vaulted; no wood has been employed in the fabric, its safety is thus ensured from accidental conflagration.

It was once proposed to embellish this stately mansion with gardens, and it is to be regretted that the idea was never realized; such an addition would diffuse an air of gaiety which is now wholly wanting to the edifice.

A description of its interior would be insufferably tedious. It may be sufficient to observe, that it contains some delightful specimens of the arts; that the walls and cielings are covered with allegorical paintings by the best masters; by Corrado Giacuinto, by J. B. and Dominic Tiepolo, by Antony Mengs, Philip de Castro, by Louis, Antony, and Alexander Velasquez, by Francis Bayeu, William Langlois, and Mariano Maella. The apartments are equally filled with pictures by the most eminent artists, as Titian, Rubens, Tintoret, Basan, Orrente, Labrador, Castiglione, Velasquez, Ronquillo, Murillo, Rivera, Luke Jordan, Van Dyck, Teniers,

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niers, Guido, Mengs, Paul Veronese, Poussin, Marati, Corregio, Lebnardo da Vinci, Durer, Vanloo, &c. The collection is very considerable; to describe all the pieces of which it is composed would be as tedious as to contemplate them is easy and delightful. Some of these pictures, however, claim particular notice.

It would be unpardonable not to select for commendation an adoration of the magi, by Rubens; and a bearing of the cross by Raphael; the former delights by the richness and beauty of the drapery, by the air of majesty diffused through the whole, and by the character so strikingly developed in the person of one of the three kings. In one word, Rubens has here exerted all the magic of his pencil. In the bearing of the cross there is an expression that no language can describe, and that is at once pathetic and sublime. The aspect of Christ bespeaks perfect resignation, a pure serenity, a tender inquietude for those around him, divested of all personal regret, and unmixed with one selfish consideration; his courage is unshaken, his magnanimity invincible, and he has rather the appearance of one sinking under the burthen of his cross, than shrinking from the acuteness of his pain. These two pieces alone are worth a whole collection.

From a multiplicity of paintings we may select a piece by Titian, of Venus binding the eyes of Cupid, an apotheosis of Hercules, one of the best works of Mengs; and an adoration of the shepherds, by the same pencil.

There is also a group of nymphs dancing round the statue of Priapus, by Poussin; the beautiful proportions of their delicate forms, the enchanting graces of every varied attitude, all breathe of youth, joy, and love, and irresistibly awaken sensations of delight.

The king of Spain's collection of paintings is one of the most valuable in Europe; it is enriched by a large number of the chef-d'œuvres of the Flemish and Italian schools; the

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the artists of Spain are equally conspicuous, but those of France are almost uniformly excluded.

One of the most magnificent apartments in the palace is the king's hall, in which his majesty gives public audience to foreign ambassadors. It is embellished with mirrors of an extraordinary size, with several antique heads, and a small equestrian statue of Philip the Second, in gilded bronze. The stucco is lavished with profusion and taste; on the doors are carved the figures of children, supporting four medallions, and other ornaments encircling gilded medallions, in which there is a representation of the elements, and, on the angles, allegorical statues alluding to celebrated rivers. The cornice, below the cieling, is covered with allegorical paintings, in which some allusion is made to each of the provinces of the Spanish continent, and the American colonies; they are distinguished by their productions, and by symbolic personages cloathed in the habits peculiar to each. The cieling is also painted with a variety of allegorical figures referring to the power, majesty, and religion of the Catholic monarchy.

The palace chapel is of an eliptic figure; four arches are superstructed in the masonry, forming the angles between them; these uniting by curvilinear triangles, support an attic, above which is raised a dome, whose height greatly exceeds the elevation of the palace. Its interior is adorned with columns of black and white marble, approaching the Corinthian order. All the architectural parts raised above the cornice, are covered with ornaments of gilt stucco, interspersed with figures and statues of stucco in imitation of white marble. The cieling of the church, that of the dome, and its four curvilinear triangles, are painted in fresco; there are several good paintings in the chancel and some of the chapels. A tabernacle is preserved there, destined to receive the holy sacrament; it is large and superb, and is wrought of gold and silver, enriched with precious stones.

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This chapel is under the superintendance of its particular clergy, composed of a grand almoner, a sacristan, a vicar, (who is also the vicar of the palace) a superior, two penitentiaries, two masters of ceremony, and thirty chaplains. It has also its ecclesiastical tribunal, composed of a judge and a fiscal.

The palace is the depository of the crown jewels and regalia. Among these it may be proper to mention, a superb throne, with its canopy, constructed for Philip the Second; it is red, wrought in gold, richly embroidered in the centre, and at each angle is a cross of rock chrystal, three feet ten inches in height. A silver urn, covered with bass-reliefs; several pendulums of silver; there is one three feet in length, divided into three compartments, elaborately ornamented with small statues and bass-reliefs, totally destitute of taste. A silver bass-relief, nearly four feet in height, in which Pope St. Leo is represented averting the destruction of Rome*; it was the model on which Alphonso Algardi executed, in marble, a bass-relief illustrating the same subject, which is appended to one of the altars of the Vatican. There are other bass-reliefs of silver; various jewels and valuables, as a silver ewer, wrought with bass-reliefs; several urns of jasper, two small busts of St. John and St. Francis, in gold; an ink-stand, with all its appendages of porphyry, embellished with gold; a small ewer of agates, with ornaments of gold; an antique group in marble, representing the apotheosis of the emperor Claudian; a precious fragment, were it not, unfortunately, disfigured by mutilation. There is also a large collection of sculpture in bronze and marble, composed of tables, statues, busts, antique heads, saints, animals, &c.

The Buen-Retiro is another royal mansion, situated on a rising ground in another extremity of Madrid in an opposite direction from the palace we have just described; it opens on the promenade of the Prado, and extends to the country bordering on the road which conducts from Alcala to Madrid.

* In allusion to the irruption of Attila.

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drid. It was erected by Philip the Fourth, at the solicitation of the Count-Duke d'Olivarez; the additions which have since been made to it, without any reference to the original plan of the edifice, have produced in the whole a confusion and irregularity totally repugnant to the principles of taste.

The palace presents a perfect square, in which there is nothing to censure or commend; it is flanked at each angle by a tower; the design discovers no taste; the execution displays no magnificence; the interior is equally plain and homely; but some of the apartments are rendered valuable by precious treasures of the arts, by the exquisite works of Zurbaran, de la Corte, Orrente, Jordan, Ricci, Borgiani, Rivera, Titian, Peter and Cornelius Vos, Rubens, Carreno, Basan, Peter Cortona, Jordaens, Poussin. There are also some pieces illustrative of Spanish history, from Castillo, Carducho, Caxes, Mayno, Leonardo, de la Corte, de Pereda. Jordan has displayed his genius in a superb saloon, the paintings of which refer to the establishment of the order of the Golden Fleece.

The palace is environed by beautiful gardens, which occupy an immense area; in one of them is placed an equestrian statue of Philip the Second in bronze; the difficulty of the design was enhanced by the attitude of the horse, who is represented in the effort of galloping, and, consequently, the whole weight of the enormous fabric, which is 18,000lb. presses on the two hinder legs; it is raised on a pedestal of marble; the execution is remarkably fine; the horse in particular challenges admiration; it was cast at Florence in 1640 by Peter Tacca, whose ingenuity is entitled to high praise. Around this garden there are many busts of marble; in the centre is a fountain, the cistern of which is wrought in the figure of a shell, and supports a triton.

Fragments of sculpture are also found in the neighbouring gardens, but they possess little merit; and, with the exception

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tion of a bust of Charles the Fifth, are not worthy of notice.

St. Paul's garden, separated from the preceding, has, in the centre, a magnificent fountain with three basons; the first, which is the largest, is sunk in the earth; a pedestal rising from the centre, surmounted by a balustrade, supports the second; on the second is placed a group of children supporting the third, on which stands a statue of Narcissus in bronze in a beautiful attitude. The same garden contains the statue of Charles the Fifth, trampling under his feet wrath in chains; it is wrought in bronze, but placed on a marble pedestal, and illustrated by military trophies. Opposite this group is discovered a house, the principal door of which is embellished with columns of variegated marble, and two statues placed on marble pedestals, representing Philip the Second in youth, and Maria, queen of Hungary. The interior of this mansion is splendidly ornamented with paintings in fresco. In the grand hall the cieling is beautified by the pencil of Mitelis and Colona; the walls also exhibit an admirable perspective.

You proceed from the garden through alleys planted with trees to the edifice; here a porcelain manufactory has been established. Another alley conducts to the mall; it is shaded by a long row of trees, and extends the length of the canal which is connected with a reservoir of water five hundred feet in length, and two hundred and seventy in breadth. At the termination of the canal there is a shady wood, planted with the elm, the poplar, the ash, the oak, the almond, and other trees.

Near the palace, on the garden side, is an enclosure called de los Reynos; at the end is a piazza of six columns, under which are placed the marble statues of Philip the Fifth, and Isabella of Austria.

There are also other gardens exhibiting parterres of flowers, herbals, orchards, diversified plantations, covered walks, and

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and a menagerie destined to become the retreat of various animals, foreign and domestic.

The Buen-Retiro has a church which is applied to parochial use; it is called Nuestra Senora de las Angustias; it is placed in the centre of the gardens, and contains some fine pictures from Luke Jordan; there is, in particular, a fine group in bronze placed on the principal altar, representing the Virgin who holds in her arms a dead Christ. This fine piece is not in a position to be seen to advantage.

The Buen-Retiro is an agreeable place, and would be yet more pleasing if it was well supplied with water. Originally its streams were replenished from the heights of Chamartin; but these sources have long failed, and it is now found necessary to supply the place of them by wells, which afford water in no great abundance. The Buen-Retiro is, however, as charming as its situation will permit. In fine weather it is the resort of the best company; the charms of the promenade are enhanced by the exclusion of carriages, and, consequently, the ladies not only walk, but display their persons to advantage in a variety of elegant dresses, which greatly heighten the general attractions of the surrounding scene.

Promenades. Madrid has several promenades; but, unluckily, they are all so situated either without the walls, or on their last confines, that a considerable distance must be traversed before they can be approached or enjoyed.

The promenade of los Altos, called Chamberri since the return of the troops during the last war with Italy, begins at St. Barbe's gate, and extends considerably to the north: it was a favourite haunt of queen Barbara, the wife of Ferdinand the Sixth; but is at present little frequented.

The Florida is beyond St. Vincent's gate, on the right bank of the Manzanarez; its fine long umbrageous valleys are sometimes interrupted by large circular areas, where stone benches are placed beneath the shade of trees. On the right

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right a cheerful champaign country is presented to the view, most happily contrasted with the uniformity of the tedious promenade; patches of culture are agreeably intermixed with trees planted here and there without regard to order or symmetry; a few straggling houses are seen at unequal distances, and one small simple edifice, belonging to the Duke of Alba, pleasingly embellished, is perceived, commanding an eminence embosomed in parterres, orchards, and gardens. To the left of this charming spot, slowly winds the Manzanarez. Nothing but a full capacious river is wanting to render the scene perfectly enchanting; that the eye, which had one moment pursued the rapid current, might repose the next on the surrounding fields and plantations; even without this charm, the promenade is delicious, and in the summer is much frequented by the royal family and fashionable society.

'The Delights' is another promenade beyond the city; it is connected with the Prado, and extends from the gate of Atocha to the canal of Manzanarez; it is embellished with fine shady avenues, some of which are for walking, others for carriages.

The Prado is the most frequented promenade, and the only one within the city; it is the same Prado so celebrated in Spanish novels and romances, so often the busy scene of amorous plots and political stratagems, of oaths and treasons, ecstacy and despair, pleasures and assassinations: it may be questioned, whether it is not more indebted for its celebrity to these romantic adventures, than to its own natural attraction of beauty. Originally its ground was unequal without trees, ornaments, or decorations; the proximity of the court then at Buen-Retiro drew to it many visitors; the little prominences on its surface afforded facilities to the forming of a rendezvous; its extent secured the parties from observation; its distance from other places facilitated the execution of clandestine plots and intrigues; it was thus become a suspicious, and

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and in the case of politics, a dangerous spot, when Charles the Third caused the ground to be levelled, planted with trees, watered and embellished, and the same process by which it was rendered one of the finest promenades in Europe, has converted a theatre of intrigue to a scene of tranquillity, and changed the haunt of despair to the shrine of pleasure. So completely is it changed, that of its former character, it now retains only its gentler destination, that of being consecrated to the secrets of love.

It commences at the convent of Atocha; passes before the gate of that name, and forms on its return a right angle. At a smaller distance it makes another curve, then lengthens to the gate of Alcala; from whence it extends to the Franciscan gate, and thus forms an inclosure of no inconsiderable part of the town.

A broad avenue, planted with lofty trees, and two collateral alleys, extend from one extremity to the other; the former is designed for carriages, the latter for walking. In some spots new plantations form other alleys and promenades, intersecting, at certain intervals, the avenues already described, or separated from them by a broad esplanade; these newer scenes are also provided with the accommodations of chairs and benches, and embellished with marble fountains, and the usual appendages of statues and sculptural ornaments which have in general an air of magnificence.

Buen-Retiro and the botanic garden are agreeable objects, but charming as this promenade appears, something yet remains to be supplied by the imagination. In the view to the left, the eye of taste yet requires some improvements; the erection of handsome houses, the interposition of beautiful parterres, enlivened by coffee rooms, animated groups, and amusing spectacles.

At present, though the concourse of people is often immense, the scene is uniformly dull and monotonous. The ladies constantly roll through the grand avenue, without alighting from their carriages; the exercise of walking is confined

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fined to women of the lower ranks, whose only garb is black, and who always envelope the head in a mantle, a sort of large veil, white or black, which conceals the face, and flows over the shoulders; from this scrupulous regard to national costume there is no variety, no gaiety, no animation, none of the attractions which create so many sources of pleasure in the public resorts of other countries.

Manufactures. Madrid does not possess one manufacture from which it can derive advantage, there are indeed three for hats, and another for stained paper, but these are barely sufficient to answer the demands of the capital; there are also three others of more eminence, for inlaid work in stone, for tapestry, and porcelain, but these being appropriated to the king are wholly unproductive to commerce; the two former of these are carried on at Buen-Retiro. The process by which stone is wrought into pictures is as delicate as curious; a selection is made from marble fragments of various shades and dimensions, which are found, by judicious assimilation, to produce no bad resemblance to painting. As this art is chiefly valuable for its rarity, its productions are not given to the public. The manufactory for porcelain was established by Charles the Third, and is wholly inaccessible, all entrance to it is interdicted, and its existence is only ascertained by the exhibition which is made of its productions in the royal palace. The elegant manufacture of tapestry is carried on without St. Barbe's gate, at the entrance of the promenade of Los Altos, or Chamberi; it was established in 1720, by Philip the Fifth, at whose invitation John Vergoten, of Antwerp, was induced to undertake its superintendance, an office at present filled by his descendants. The productions of this manufactory are carpets and tapestry, the subjects of which are often drawn from fable or history; it sometimes copies pictures executed by superior artists; it affords daily employment to eighty persons, including dyers, drawers, designers, and all its various branches.

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A considerable manufacture of saltpetre has also been established at the gates of the city; the process is performed by extracting the saltpetre from soils brought from the country, the sweepings of streets and roads, which being collected in heaps are left exposed to the action of the air, rain, and sun. The saltpetre, which has been thus developed is extracted, when the soils are again spread upon the ground, and having been re-submitted to the action of the elements, are again subjected to the process of extraction. This method is found equally easy and inexpensive.

Various circumstances have conspired to promote the success of this undertaking, the peculiar properties of the soil, the facility of the labour, and the economy attending it, the augmented benefits resulting from the process, and the abundance of water which is conveyed to it by subterraneous pipes. With such advantages its progress could not fail to be rapid and decisive. It commenced but in 1779, and in 1785 already occupied four thousand men; since that period the number has been proportionally increased. The directors were required to furnish eleven thousand quintals every year, but they have long been enabled to supply a much larger quantity, and now produce saltpetre enough to satisfy all the demands of Spain, nor is it improbable that it may soon be yielded in sufficient quantities to form a new article of exportation. The saltpetre, extracted by this simple process, is of a superior quality; the gunpowder produced from it is excellent, and has been repeatedly found to possess more projectile force than that in ordinary use.

Commerce. The commerce of Madrid is wholly passive. It could not procure subsistence from the adjacent country for ten days, and is absolutely dependant for support on remote provinces or foreign countries for every article of use or ornament, for cloaths and corn, all the luxuries and necessaries of life. Destitute of arts and manufactures, it is only preserved from poverty and wretchedness by the wealth of its residents, by money originally drawn

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from the provinces, but transferred to the royal coffer, and from thence showered on those who attend the court, and monopolize the favors of their sovereign.

Manners and Customs. Madrid has no distinct character, no manners, no customs particularly appropriate; it presents an assemblage of people from the provinces, each of whom brings to it his own hereditary peculiarities of sentiment or deportment, which are soon blended with those of his associates; from the whole there results an indefinable mixture of manners and opinions, a mass of generalities rarely marked by an individual shade. The only prominent feature in Madrid is that inordinate egotism which commonly prevails in great cities, in such at least as have been the residence of sovereigns, and possess within their limits the sources of luxury and pleasure, and the pabulum of avarice and ambition. No other city in Spain is equally free from prejudice, and from a disposition to censure and detraction; candour is here universally prevalent, and is either the happy concomitant of constant occupation, or the effect of more improved civilization.

The mass of people are commonly coarse and uncultivated; the artisan bold and arrogant, but honest and well-meaning; the merchant well-behaved; the lawyer solemn and consequential, of reserved habits, of strict integrity, with cold and stately politeness of manners; the subalterns in the law, who are very numerous, are more consequential than their superiors, bold, greedy, repulsive, supercilious, and insufferable; the tradesman is at once honest, hospitable, and obliging; the women are gentle, affable, and attentive, with a graceful deportment and easy manner, the great are polished, unaffected, affable, easy of access, ready to divest themselves of superiority, and to engage the confidence of those by whom they are approached; they are in short the reverse of the petty provincial nobility who mistake assumption for greatness, and arrogance for dignity. There are many amusements at Madrid; the coffee-houses attract

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tract the idle multitude; the Puerto del Sol is another resort, particularly in the morning, of the populace. The promenades are also much frequented. At the approach of evening crowds collect to some favorite spot, and form what is called the Tartulia. An air of gaiety and urbanity prevails in society. Strangers are well received; nor is there a place in Europe more completely free from national prejudice. But the most poignant pleasure that can be offered to the inhabitants of Madrid is the exhibition of a bull fight; all are passionately fond of this spectacle, for which every other would be at once abandoned and forgotten. It was usual for this spectacle, which of late has been suppressed, to be exhibited in the summer, when it became the signal for universal joy and animation; all Madrid was in commotion; a boisterous gaiety was imprinted on every countenance; the coaches rattled over the pavement; the calashes whirled beside them; the streets were thronged with spectators. The spectacle was commonly exhibited in a spacious rotunda prepared for the occasion, and erected on the outside of the gate of Alcala; the boxes were filled with females, displaying all the elegant and fanciful varieties of dress; a single glance presented to the spectator all the gradations of rank of which the community was composed; the effect of the whole was grand and impressive.

Theatres. There are three theatres in Madrid; that of la Cruz, or the Cross, del Principe, or the Prince, and de los Canos del Peral, which stands in the square of that name; the two first are ordinary houses, without any pretensions to architectural ornament; one of them stands in a miserable hole not unlike a tunnel; the other in the middle of a street; and as neither of them is furnished with avenues or passages, the entrance and egress are almost equally difficult and perilous. In the interior of these edifices there is nothing to atone for its defects; they appear small and sordid, and have been constructed with as little regard to convenience

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as elegance. The theatre of Los Canos del Peral is also plain, but as it occupies a large area, and is situated in an open square, its avenues are easy and agreeable; the boxes are arranged with more symmetry and more judiciously embellished. The theatres of the Cross and the Prince are occupied exclusively by two companies of Spanish performers, who alternately resign and resume their stations on the same stage; some representation is daily offered in them to the public, and it not unfrequently happens that two plays are performed in the same day. The theatre of Los Canos was erected in 1730, for operas. They were soon distressed for Spanish plays, and to these succeeded masked balls; at present it is engaged by a foreign company, who perform Italian operas or ballets four times a week.

These theatres scarcely receive sufficient encouragement for their support; from the receipts which are constantly published in the Madrid journal, it appears that neither of the Spanish theatres produces more than a thousand livres; and as the receipts of the opera house commonly amount but to eleven or twelve hundred livres, the opera must long since have sunk into oblivion but for the exertions of some distinguished patrons, who took it under their immediate superintendance and protection. It may appear strange that three theatres should with such difficulty exist in the capital of a great empire, but it should be remembered that the population of Madrid is small, and that it receives not any adventitious encouragement from an influx of strangers.

Under Ferdinand the Sixth the gaiety and magnificence of the court constantly supplied the most brilliant spectacles; crowds of musicians, singers, dancers, and skilful machinists, drawn from every part of Europe, were assembled at Buen Retiro, where they vied with each other in the display of their respective talents, and exhibited all the magic of art to the enraptured court and delighted people. The situation of the structure happily conspired to create the enchantment. Placed

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Placed in the centre of delicious plantations, at the first unfolding of the scene the artificial limits of the stage vanished, and a beautiful perspective of fields, gardens, and mountains, was presented to the view. Sometimes the spectator witnessed the various manœuvres and exercises employed with eight hundred horses, and so perfect was the illusion that he found it difficult to persuade himself they were not actually within the verge of the theatre. On the death of Ferdinand, Charles the Third, his brother, who inherited his crown but not his taste, banished these amusements from his court; and the theatre, so lately an enchanted circle of gaiety and pleasure, was abandoned to silence and desolation; its walls are now deserted, and its once splendid decorations mouldering in dust.

On Corpus Christi day there is a grand procession, composed of the secular and regular clergy of Madrid, followed by the king, his ministers, and court, each bearing in his hand a wax taper. Magnificent awnings of tapestry are raised in the streets through which the procession is to pass; the balconies are decorated with splendid hangings; the seats are covered with cushions, and occasionally surmounted with dais; in some of the streets the face of day is darkened by canopies which stretch from one side to theother. Altars are placed at regular intervals; the balconies are thronged with ladies superbly dressed, who sprinkle scented water, or scatter fragrant flowers on the passing multitudes.

Climate. The sky at Madrid is almost always clear and serene, and seldom darkened by a single cloud; the air is dry, pure, and penetrating, particularly in the winter season; it braces the nervous system, but is sometimes found to occasion a general constriction of the frame, highly injurious to hectic subjects, and to persons of a very irritable nervous temparament; its keenness resists the burning heats of of summer; even then a violent shivering is often experienced in making a sudden transition from the sun to the shade,

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though the sky is perfectly clear and the air equally serene. In this painful experience has originated the common saying, That the air of Madrid destroys a man, when it does not extinguish a candle; to guard against such disagreeable effects it is proper for foreigners to wear a fur waistcoat next the skin, which fortifies them completely from every change of temperature. The extreme elevation of Madrid contributes partly to this peculiarity in its climate; the piercing air may, however, be referred with greater certainty to the quantities of snow almost constantly lying on the summits of the adjacent mountains of Guadarrama.

The winds most prevalent in Madrid are the north in winter, the south and west in spring. The north is extremely cold, dry, and penetrating; the south and west winds produce heat and rain; the south wind prevails during the summer, and with it a perfect calm; in the spring, on the contrary, the air is mild and genial, and sometimes humid; in the summer the heat is intense, and during the months of July and August almost insupportable; the autumnal season is delicious, but the air is already refrigerated, and becomes cold towards the middle of November. The winters are dry and rigorous.

Madrid may in general be considered as a healthy residence; it is rarely visited by epidemics, but is uniformly subject to inflammatory complaints, the consequence of impetuous winds and perpetual variations in the temperature. Nervous affections are also very prevalent, particularly those of the hypochondriac class. These are, perhaps, generated by the fickle atmosphere of a court, and often originate in the turbulent or corroding passions of ambition, envy and disappointment; but from whatever source they may arise, they often terminate in a series of tedious, but indefinite chronic complaints.

The inhabitants of Madrid have a more formidable adversary in the nervous cholic, whose attacks are always violent and often fatal; and even after a happy termination of the original

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original complaint, the effects are sufficiently baneful. Though it does not commonly induce paralysis, it seldom fails to entail a decided disposition to spasms and convulsions, accompanied by various indications of visceral and lienteric derangement. In the mode of treatment anodynes and narcotics are commonly employed with success.

Productions. Food. The various articles of food consumed in this capital are supplied by different parts of Spain; it receives beef and veal from Aragon; pork from Estremadura; mutton from the environs of Toledo, and the kingdom of Leon; game from the same districts, and also from Old Castile; fish from Valencia; wheat from Old Castile; oil from Aragon and New Castile; wine from la Mancha; fruits and vegetables from Aragon and Valencia, (those of Aragon are far superior to the produce of Valencia); the bread is excellent, the water is pure and good; it flows from the mountains of Guadarrama; and, passing for several leagues over a bed of sand or gravel, it is received free from any mixture or impurity. The water collected in the two fountains of St. Louis and St. Bernard deposits a chalky sediment, and is less salubrious; the best is contained in the fountain del Berro, a quarter of a league from Madrid, by the gate of Alcala, which, for its superior quality, is used by the royal family.

Inns. There are three different receptacles at Madrid for the accommodation of strangers, inns, and the houses distinguished by the denomination of Mesones and Casas de Posada. There are three principal inns where the accommodation is decent; these are the Golden Fountain, St. Sebastian and the Cross of Malta; they are all kept by Italians; the common charge is twelve reals for every meal, exclusive of the apartment, which is a separate expence. The table is but indifferent at the Cross of Malta, though rather better than at the other inns. There are several other houses in which the charge is less, but the accommodation in every

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respect worse. The Mesones are houses in which strangers may be gratuitously furnished with a sorry lodging, but must provide their own necessaries. A creditable person cannot easily persuade himself to accept of this hospitality. The Casas de Posada are houses in which you hire furnished lodgings, (not often accommodated with a bed,) and purchase necessaries of the person occupying the house, who is charged with the trouble of providing your repast. Here, for ten reals per day, you may lodge decently, and either take your meals at home, or at some adjacent inn. This mode of living is not only more economical but more respectable

Inns are dear at Madrid, though the price of eatables is extremely moderate. In 1799 beef was sold at fourpence halfpenny the pound; mutton at fourpence the pound; veal at about threepence halfpenny the pound; pork at fivepence per pound; common bread at one penny the pound; wine at twopence halfpenny the quartillo.

Celebrated men. Madrid has been the native place of several persons eminent for piety and knowledge, and equally distinguished in the polite arts and elegant literature.

In remoter times it gave birth to Pope Melchiades and Pope Damascus.

In later periods to Gregory Lopez, who wrote on the Apocalypse, and on the virtues of plants, to Alvarez Semple de Tovar, eminent as a preacher at the commencement of the seventeenth century; to the three learned civilians of the same era, Ramirez de Prado, John del Castillo Sotomayor, to Didace Antony Jafrez de Faxardo, and Benedict Peter de Vargas, of whom there yet remains a work on the process for exploding mines and assaying metals.

This city produced two historians of the seventeenth century, Gonzalvo y Menezes, and Basil Varen de Soto; Didace Hermandez de Mendoza, who published at the close of the sixteenth century an account of the peerage of Castile;

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Castile; the poets Fernando de Acuna and Gabriel Tellez, Alphonso de Vatres, another poet, an elegant and agreeable writer who flourished at the commencement of the seventeenth century; Antony Cuello, whose comedies gave the promise of excellence, but who was cut off in the flower of youth in 1552; Francis de Quintana, and J. G. Cortes de Tolosa, well known in the last age for their novels and romances; J. Peres de Montalvan, their contemporary, who was at once an author of romances, poems, and dramas. In this literary register a distinguished place must be found for Francis Quevedo de Villegas, who by his various powers in criticism and poetry, did honour to his age and country. The writings of this illustrious man have been translated into different languages, and at once perpetuate his memory and his genius.

Antony Cabezon, an admirable musician of the seventeenth century, who wrote on the art he practised, was also a native of Madrid; as was Francis Ricci, a second rate artist, who died in 1680. Claudio Coello, another painter, his contemporary, claims some notice, as do three other artists, John Pantoja de la Cruz, Barthelemy Roman, and Francis Solis.

Rivers. Canals. The slow stream of Manzanarez flows in the precincts of Madrid. The obvious necessity of supplying the capital with provisions from the country, long since suggested the expediency of rendering this little river the channel of communication with the provinces. In the reign of John the Second, it was proposed to effect a junction between the Manzanarez and the Xarama; under Philip the Second, the enterprize was attempted, but, on that monarch's death, totally suspended. The subject was resumed in the reign of Charles the Second, but it was reserved for Charles the Third to carry these various plans into execution. Under his auspices a canal was formed beginning at the bridge of Toledo, near Madrid, and extending to the Xarama, near the village of Manzanarez, which includes a distance of four leagues. The undertaking commenced with every

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every assurance of prosperous encouragement; the work was half completed, seven sluices and four mills were already formed, the banks were cloathed with wood, the country enlivened with gardens, the navigation was opened by twenty barks or boats of half a ton burthen, when suddenly on the very moment for perseverance to give the promise of success, the labour was suspended, and it is to be feared the whole undertaking is completely abandoned.

EXCURSIONS TO THE ENVIRONS OF MADRID.

The environs of Madrid offer no beauties to the eye. This capital commands a wide champaign country, dry and sterile, without either foliage or verdure, edifices or plantations. No trees are seen but on the promenades, the avenues of Madrid, and the borders of the Manzanarez; the only mansion visible is the house already mentioned, belonging to the duke of Alva, near the Florida, which is merely a place of amusement and recreation. It would, however, be easy to re-introduce foliage into a country that was once covered with wood, and that has been since cultivated with wheat and barley; there are few vineyards, though the soil is most happily adapted to such plantations.

On a distant view, this extensive country assumes the aspect of one vast plain, but, on nearer observation, its irregularity becomes apparent, and it presents some objects, such as founderies, calculated to create sensations of disgust;

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disgust; there are numerous villages, but, from the inequality of the surface, they appear to little advantage.

There are, however, some favoured spots in the vicinity of Madrid, pleasantly situated, some edifices to which nature and art have conspired to lend attractions, of these the greater part belong to the sovereign; they are the scenes of his retreat, and are solely destined for his recreation and enjoyment.

CASA DEL CAMPO.

The Casa del Campo is nearly east of Madrid, on the opposite side of the Manzanarez. It is a country house, or rather a hunting seat, surrounded by forests, two leagues in circumference, where tigers, lions, and other ferocious animals, are kept in captivity.

The house is small, but contains some choice paintings, including portraits, landscapes, and flowers, in the manner of the Flemish school; several of them are by Paul Matteis. Here is the temptation of St. Antony, by James Calot; and two allegorical pictures by Jerome Bosco, one of them representing the insane vanity of mortals, the other, the creation of man, and the condition to which he is induced by sin. In the chapel is a fine picture of Bassan, representing the martyrdom of St. Lawrence.

The best front of the house is that which faces the gardens. In addition to the usual appendages of arches and piazzas, there is an equestrian statue of Philip the Third, in bronze, adorned with cartridges of the same metal, and placed on a marble pedestal; it was erected in 1616, and it is computed that no less than twelve thousand five hundred and eighteen pounds of brass were used for the statue, and eleven hundred and thirty pounds for the cartridges.

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The adjoining garden is ornamented at its four angles with four statues of marble, large as life, and with a beautiful fountain contrsucted also of marble, with four basons placed one on the other, and many sculptural embellishments; here are five fish-ponds, a pheasant walk, and a valery, inhabited by birds of every species.

This spot is a neglected but delightful solitude; a scene of verdure and tranquillity, unobserved and unenjoyed; it is perfectly silent, and so rarely visited that it appears wholly sequestered from the haunts and habitations of men.

THE PARDO.

The Pardo has a picturesque situation between two hills on the left bank of the Manzanarez, two leagues from Madrid, from whence it is approached by a magnificent road, leading through St. Vincent's gate.

It is an ancient hunting seat, and existed before the royal residence was fixed at Madrid; it was rebuilt by Charles the First, embellished by Philip the Second, and considerably enlarged by Charles the Third.

It is a large square building, flanked by four towers, one at each angle, and composed of four sides with an interior communication by galleries, supported on columns distributed at the four sides. The inside of the palace exhibits various decorations in stucco, beautiful tapestries from the royal manufactory at Madrid, and several paintings in fresco by Gaspard Becerra. The chapel contains three pictures placed on the altars, the figure of a despairing man, the Conception, and the Virgin, in grief; the two first are by Francis Bayeu and Mariano Moella, the last by Morales.

The palace is embosomed in forests, a succession of woods that would be yet more immense if they were connected with those of Vinuelas and of the royal Quinta, which are contiguous to them, and, when united, would form a district of more than twenty leagues.

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TORRE DE LA PARADA.

The Torre de la Parada belongs also to the king; it is a simple house or rather a sort of rendezvous, a quarter of a league from Pardo, and stands on the skirts of an extensive forest. It contains several paintings from the Flemish school, among others from Peter de Vos, Erasmus Kelia, Thomas Villevorts, Cusier, and Yoris; there are also some Spanish pieces from Pantoja and Carducho.

THE ZARZUELA.

The Zarzuela, another royal house, celebrated for its fine gardens, is embosomed in a forest of oaks, two leagues north from Madrid. The principal edifice presents a square, of which the architecture, though plain, is correct. The entrance is on one side by a flight of steps covered with a piazza; on the other by a double flight of steps, opening on the gardens; formerly this mansion was rendered precious by the number of fine paintings it contained, but they have since been removed, and copies alone are left, as mementos of the departed originals. The gardens are well supplied with streams and fountains; one of them is raised on a long terrace supported by several arches, which, at a distance, produce a striking effect; from this hanging garden you descend to others by a double flight of steps, surrounded by a handsome balustrade. This mansion might easily be rendered a desirable residence, but is at present deplorably neglected.

MEJORADA.

Mejorada is a village situated on the right bank of the river Xarama, two leagues from Madrid; its principal recommendation is the chapel annexed to its parochial church which opens by a dome, adorned with eleven large pieces of painting, illustrating the life of St. Faustus, the productions of Albert Arnon, and finished in 1690. Under this dome

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dome is placed an isolated altar, with four sides highly ornamented; on its table rises a pedestal encrusted with various marbles, of alabaster, and lapis lazuli, and variegated with decorations in bronze; at each of its four angles is the figure of an angel finely wrought in bronze; the pedestal supports an urn, variegated also with incrustations of marble and decorations in bronze, which rests on four sphinxes of the same materials. Here are two agate vases for holy water, of exquisite neatness and elegance. The sacristy contains a piece of painting by Jordan, about forty-five inches in length, the subject is the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt. This chapel is particularly worthy of attention.

LOECHES.

Loeches, a village belonging to the duke of Alba, lies between Madrid and Alcala de Henarez (four leagues from the former, two leagues from the latter) and, in conjunction with these two cities, forms an irregular triangle. It is chiefly known for a nunnery of the Dominican order, which contains some choice and exquisite paintings; those which the church contains are, with a few exceptions, from the pencil of Rubens. The principal altar is highly embellished; in the steps are four small landscapes; a Holy Virgin, with the infant Jesus, encircled by angels; a birth of Christ; a Holy Family, in which the infant Jesus appears slumbering in his mother's arms; Abraham offering the tenth of his spoils to Melchisedec, an allegorical representation of the triumph of religion; the children of Israel receiving manna from heaven; Elias, in the desert, comforted by the vision of an angel, who descends to re-animate and strengthen him. These last pieces are in the east and west transept, one on each side. The sacristy contains other paintings equally precious; among others is an apparition of Christ to the Virgin after the resurrection, a presentation to the temple by Paul Verona; an Annunciation, and Jesus praying in the garden

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garden of Olives, by Bassan; a St. Dominic, raising a dead man, by Tinteret; a flight to Egypt, by Titian, remarkable for the elegance of the figures and the beauty of the landscape. The sight of these paintings amply repays the trouble of an excursion from Madrid to Loeches.

Route from Madrid to the Escurial, and to San Lorenzo.

The distance from Madrid to the Escurial and St. Lorenzo is seven leagues; the road is excellent, but runs across a naked country without trees or pasture. A part of it winds along the Manzanarez; from thence, leaving the Casa del Campo, you advance to Pardo, and pass in succession three houses, where relays of horses are provided. The next place is Valde Morillo, from whence you take the first glimpse of the Escurial. The village of this name, the immense edifice of San Lorenzo, with its gardens, meadows, orchards, and forests, are gradually disclosed to view. It is impossible not to be struck with the stately grandeur of this edifice; you discover a single house occupied by a community of monks belonging to the Escurial; you ascend the hill on which the monastery is situated; you traverse a little ash wood, in which oxen, horses, and deer browze together. You pass the village of the Escurial, continuing the ascent; you shape your course through a beautiful alley planted with elms and linden trees,

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trees, half a mile in extent, to a grand esplanade, from whence you proceed to a large square paved with rough round stones arranged in compartments. This area is two hundred feet in length, and one hundred and forty in breadth, and surrounds the principal front of the Escurial.

ESCURIAL and SAN LORENZO.*.

Few monuments have given rise to so great a variety of opinions as the Escurial and its collateral buildings. By some, and in this number almost all Spaniards are included, it has been called the eighth wonder of the world; and there have been enthusiasts who scrupled not to pronounce it the miracle of architecture. Others who have never seen this monument of the piety and powers, the magnificence, the pride, perhaps the pusillanimity of Philip, have attributed to it every ridiculous extravagance that an inflated imagination could suggest. They have multiplied the number of its doors, windows, pilasters, and columns; they have loaded it with gold and silver, with porphyry and agates, and precious stones, and lavished on it the most rich, various, and capricious ornaments; on the contrary, there are others so completely under the influence of prejudice, as to see in it nothing but a heterogenous, enormous, mass of stones, a heavy pile, irregular and tasteless, as far from elegance as magnificence.

From the following description it will appear, that these different opinions have originated in partiality or prejudice;

* It is common to confound the Escurial with the superb edifice erected by Philip the Second, at once a monastery and a palace. The real name of that magnificent mansion is San Lorenzo; that of the Escurial is derived from the village which is about a quarter of a league distant.

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that the Escurial, without aspiring to the character of a miracle, is a fine, noble, majestic structure; that its amplitude arrests the attention, its wealth creates astonishment; and that admiration is equally due to the regular plan and masterly execution of the edifice, and to the royal munificence which superintended, supported, and patronized the undertaking.

The erection of this palace commenced in 1557, under John Baptiste Manegro, an architect of Toledo; on his death in 1567 the work was continued by one of his pupils, John Herrera Bustamante, a native of Movella, one of the mountainous villages in the Asturias, who died at Madrid 1597; it is built of grey stone, procured from quarries in the adjacent mountains; and is disposed in the form of a gridiron, in allusion to the martyrdom of St. Lorenzo. Eight towers, perfectly symmetrical, and regularly corresponding with each other, invest the dome of the church, and impart to the whole fabric a grand and solemn aspect.

The edifice presents a long parallelogram; its four fronts are more or less embellished; the principal front is six hundred and thirty-seven feet in breadth, and to the cornice fifty-one feet eight inches in height; at each angle it is flanked with a tower elevated a hundred and eighty feet from the earth. There are two hundred windows and three entrances. The central gate presents two bodies of architecture; the lower body is adorned with eight Doric columns; the upper with four columns of the Ionic order. Of equal extent is the front on the opposite side towards the east. It is approached by a large square raised on arches like a terrace, and encircled by a lofty balustrade. The west and south fronts are of the same dimensions. There is, however, this difference between them, that there are five rows of windows in the latter, and scarcely any in the former.

This edifice comprehends a monastery of Jeronimites, and a mansion for the sovereign.

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In the conventual part are various objects worthy of observation, as the chapter-rooms, the old church, the priory, refectories, cloisters, and libraries.

In the chapter-room and the prior's apartment are several admirable pictures.

The old church is a hundred and twenty-nine feet two inches in length, and thirty-two feet eight inches in breadth. The pictures are excellent and numerous.

The refectory is spacious, a hundred and three feet four inches in length, and thirty-two feet eight inches in breadth. Among other paintings, there is a Lord's Supper by Titian, which cannot but delight the beholder.

This masterly artist is sufficiently distinguishable by the beauty of his colours, the just proportions and natural expression of his heads, and the happy variety of his attitudes. In the small cloister there is nothing remarkable: the ground cloister is a square, formed by a double row of piazzas, one over the other, ninety-three feet in length, (on each of the four sides,) and seventeen feet in breadth. The walls of the lower cloister are covered with paintings from different masters, from Louis Carvajal, Michael Berroso, Pellegrino Tibaldi, and Romulo Cincinnato. The ascent from hence to the upper cloister is by a handsome staircase, adorned with fine fresco paintings, chiefly allegorical, among which is represented the foundation of the monastery, and the battle of St. Quintin. These pieces are by Luke Cambiaso, Luke Jordan, and other masters. The upper cloister is decorated with still more beautiful paintings from Mudo, Alexander, Alori, Frederic, Barocci, Luke Jordan, Michael Coxler, Charles Cagliava, Espagnolet, and Titian.

The double cloister is constructed of granite. It rises to an elevation of fifty-two feet, is adorned with four magnificent fronts, one at each side, opening on a spacious court of eighty-eight arches, eleven in each row, supported by ninety-six columns, which in the first body are Doric, and in the second

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second of the Ionic order. These terminate by a cornice supporting a balustrade, with parapets and globes placed on pedestals.

The wide area of the cloister is divided into several compartments. In the centre stands an edifice representing a small temple about fifty-two feet in height, and twenty-six in diameter; it is octagonal, and terminates in a dome; the exterior is constructed of granite, the interior of fine jasper marble; its eight aspects are alternately embellished with projecting columns or statues, large as life. All the ornamental sculpture is wrought in Genoa marble. The allegorical figures of an angel, an eagle, an ox, and a lion, which have been made symbolical of the attributes peculiar to the four Evangelists, are presented to view, pouring water into beautiful vases. In itself, this edifice is a handsome and agreeable object; but, in connection with the cloister, it is rather an incumbrance than an ornament. Being equally elevated, it intercepts the view of that edifice, or totally destroys the impression of grandeur it ought to produce. The valuable libraries, including thirty curious or precious volumes, constitute the real treasures of which this palace is the depositary. In one of them is a collection of books in Latin, Hebrew, and Arabic characters, with a yet more curious assemblage of four thousand three hundred MSS. of which five hundred and sixty-seven are in Greek, sixty-seven in Hebrew, eighteen hundred and five in Arabic, eighteen hundred and twenty in Latin, Castilian, and other languages. Several bibles are included in this number, particularly the Greek bible of the emperor Cantacuzene. To these curiosities is added a collection of ancient and modern medals. A part of the other library, deposited in a private cabinet, consists of choice designs and ancient MSS. most carefully preserved. There is a copy of the four Evangelists, seven hundred years old, magnificently embellished

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with miniatures, and a Greek liturgy, supposed to have been written by St. Basil.

The apartment in which these literary treasures are contained, is adorned with fluted Doric columns; the roof and the frieze are covered with allegorical paintings in honour of the arts and sciences, and the luminaries of ancient and modern ages. In the centre, on a table, is a small octagonal temple, where Charlemagne is represented encircled by his princes and palatines. The temple is constructed of silver; its ornaments are in filligree, gold, lapis lazuli, agates, diamonds, and other precious stones. In these costly embellishments have been expended twenty pounds of lapis lazuli, forty-eight ounces of gold, and fourteen hundred and forty-eight ounces of silver.

These libraries are under the superintendance of the monks, who allow free access to such as demand entrance, and who, far from assuming a litigious vigilance over the treasures entrusted to their care, appear anxious that others should participate in their own privileges and immunities.

To strangers they are uniformly lavish of courtesy and attention; they anticipate solicitation and invite enquiry; they suggest observations and provoke curiosity, and are ever ready to lend information to such as discover a desire for information and improvement. The royal part of this edifice is not the most magnificent, but it is more honourably distinguished by its exquisite paintings, selected from the choicest masters. There are two galleries adjoining each other, in which these fine specimens of genius are principally exhibited. One of the apartments, called the Gallery of the Infanta, contains several historical pieces by Basan, two small paintings by Jerome Bosco, and two allegorical pieces, representing the creation and corruption of man, by the same artist. The other, which is called the principal gallery, seventy feet in length, is filled with paintings in fresco, executed

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cuted by Granello and Fabricius, the two sons of Bergamasco. On these walls are traced many glorious achievements of the battle of Higuerela, in which king John triumphed over the Moors; that of St. Quintin, and two maritime expeditions to the Azores. The excellence of these paintings consists in their accurate representation of costume, their natural attitudes and brilliant colours. It is only to be regretted, that the perspective is so ill-observed. The principal gallery bears the appropriate name of the Battlehall.

There is a particular edifice called the Campana, detached from the main building which communicates with it by a double gallery, one over the other, eighty-six feet in length, adorned with Ionic columns. To the upper gallery there is an architrave of the Doric order; to the inferior gallery are appended arches, with pilasters of the Tuscan order.

The ascent to the church is by a fine staircase, an hundred and thirty-six feet in breadth, and thirty-four in length; it leads to a piazza which is the fore ground of the church, and forms its façade. The piazza opens to five arcades resting on pilasters, which support semi-columns of the Doric order; above these is raised a second body, adorned with six statues of the kings of Israel, of white marble inlaid with black, eighteen feet in length. This front is flanked by two towers, one at each side, which are used as belfries.

The interior of the church presents a Greek cross, with a lofty dome in the centre; its architecture is Doric; its dimensions are immense; it is three hundred and thirteen feet in length, and a hundred and ninety-eight in breadth; there are forty-eight altars, enriched with paintings from the first masters, as Navarrete, Zuccheri, Cincinnato, Cambiaso, Cokier, Urbino, Carvajal, and Sancho Coello. Over the holy water-pot is placed a marble statue of St. Lawrence, large as life; it is a magnificent specimen of art, and is by

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some supposed to have been an antique discovered among the ruins at Rome.

Opposite the principal altar, and projecting from the door into the nave of the church, is the choir; its awkward position undoubtedly diminishes the beauty and symmetry of the edifice, but in itself it contains much to create admiration and delight. The interior is exquisitely finished and embellished; the walls and cielings present the fine paintings of Luke Cambiaso. In admiring the masterly execution of of this artist it is impossible not to feel some irritation for the absurd and ridiculous designs on which he has wasted so much invention and labour. Angels and beatified spirits are ranged, rank and file, rather in the manner of an army drawn up for battle than in the peaceful order of a celestial community. In the centre stands a pulpit of cedar and ebony; it rests on four columns of bronze, and has various ornaments composed of the same materials; it terminates in a kind of temple, formed by twelve columns of the Doric order; there are two rows of stalls, including two hundred and twenty-eight seats, which are of the same materials with the pulpit; the upper row is adorned with fluted columns; the prior's seat is placed in the centre of the twelve columns, which are surmounted with a frontispiece representing Christ bearing the cross, an excellent piece by Sebastian del Piombo.

The chancel is raised by twelve steps; it is decorated with bronzes, and the roof is covered with fresco paintings; it contains two superb mausoleums, one of which presents to view the statues of Charles the Fifth, armed and covered with the imperial mantle of the empress Elizabeth his consort, of their daughter the empress Mary, and of the queens of France and Hungary, (the emperor's sisters.) The other mausoleum presents also, in the same attitude of prostration, the statues of Philip the Second, armed and clad with the royal mantle, and of his three queens, Anne, Mary, and Elizabeth;

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Elizabeth; they are all of gilt bronze, and were constructed by Pompey Leoni.

Three doors, ornamented with bronze and crystal, and some very rare stones, open under an arch into the chancel, and conduct to three compartments incrusted with different marbles, where the royal family assist at divine service; two of these have each their appropriate altar, with two paintings, one of Christ and the Virgin; another (by Titian) of Christ bearing the cross.

The principal altar is composed of four bodies of architecture; in the first are six columns of the Doric order, in the second an equal number of fluted Ionic columns, on the third four of the Corinthian order, on the fourth two of the Composite; attached to these are fifteen statues, and several paintings; among others is Christ bearing the cross, Christ bound to the stake, an Assumption, a Resurrection, the Descent of the Holy Ghost, all by Frederic Zucchrei, but of inferior merit; of the same character is the martyrdom of St. Lawrence, by Sibaldi; but there are two pieces by the same artist of a birth of Christ and the adoration of the Wise Men, which are really beautiful; the statues inserted in the second body possess great beauty of expression, they are by Leo and his son Pompey Leoni, both these, and the ornaments appended to the columns and pilasters of the first body, are of gilded bronze.

A circular table, of Corinthian architecture, fourteen feet seven inches in height, and six feet seven inches in diameter, is placed in the centre of the altar; it is adorned with the statues of the twelve apostles, in gilt bronze, and with eight columns of red jasper marble veined with white, so beautiful as scarcely to be distinguished from agates; the plinths and capitals, the medallions, and other ornaments, are also of bronze. This magnificent structure terminates in a dome of jasper marble, which contains a statue of Christ and is adorned with a topaz almost the size of a

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hand, encased in a rose of gold. In this tabernacle is inclosed another, only one foot seven inches in height; it is wrought of precious stones, is of a square form, and is decorated at each side with four columns and four pilasters; the bases and capitals are gold enamel, the cornice of silver; it is crowned with small pyramidical spires, placed on pedestals of vermilion stone, embossed with gold; at the two sides appear two doors of rock chrystal, studded with gold; like the larger tabernacle it terminates in a dome, the clef of which is marked on the outside by an emerald, attached to a rose of gold; and on the inside by a beautiful topaz, inclosed in gold enamel. This tabernacle is rather gorgeous than magnificent; its materials are rich; there is a confusion in the orders of architecture, and complexity in the ornaments, that fatigue and oppresse the attention; on the whole, therefore, this costly fabric produces no effect; at a distance it appears attached to the wall without any projection, although it is in reality perfectly isolated.

The sacristy, and the area before it, are enriched with paintings of inestimable value, too numerous for detail; they exhibit the genius of the first masters, as Peter Perouse, John Francis Romanelli, John Antony Regilio, called Perdenone, Andrew Schiavone, Castel Franco, called Giorgion, Annibal Caracci, Raphael, Sebastian del Piombo, Corregio, Guido Rheni, Espagnolet, Rubens, Vandyke, Tintoret, Paul Veronese, and Titian.

This sacristy is included in one beautiful nave, ninety-three feet in length, and eighty feet five inches in breadth; it is the depository of much wealth, in relics, shrines, chalices, crosses, and chandeliers. On an altar, called the Santa Forma, adorned with the finest marbles and bronzes, is preserved a tabernacle, presented by the emperor Leopold, designed for the holy sacrament; it is of silver, seven feet eight inches in height, is adorned with several allegorical and figures, embossed

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embossed with precious stones; it contains also a smaller tabernacle, about the size of an ordinary chalice.

Many valuables are contained in the treasury of this church; among others, a statue of St. Lawrence, which weighs nine hundred marks of silver and thirty-six marks of gold; an allegorical statue of the city of Messina, which bears in the hand an ostensoire of gold, weighing fifty marks, the crown and collar are of precious stones; a small temple of gilded bronze, more than a hundred feet in height, adorned with eight Doric columns, and surmounted by a dome; a crucifix of silver, attached to a cross of gilt silver, having a topaz on the head, a big ruby in each hand, and a brilliant stone, an inch in diameter, at the feet, which was long regarded as a real diamond.

The Pantheon, a place destined for the interment of the kings and royal house of Spain, is beneath this church, and is, perhaps, that part of the Escurial most worthy of attention, from its grandeur and elegance, its luxurious costliness and tasteful magnificence.

You descend fifty-nine steps, of which the first staircase is composed; its walls and arches are encrusted with marbles exquisitely shaded and assimilated, and it leads to a landing-place, in the form of a rotunda, which has the same decorations.

Turning from this spot you resume your descent, and, after some stairs, discover a beautiful front formed by ten marble columns of the Doric order, of which the bases, the capitals, the medallions, and other ornaments are of gilded bronze; two allegorical statues of the same metal, representing human nature, and hope, are placed at either side. You again descend thirty-four steps, when the eye is rivetted on the beautiful marbles with which the walls and arches are covered.

You advance to the compartment which forms a common sepulchre for the royal family; and where the remains of forty-three infantas and infantos repose in dreary tranquillity.

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To this succeeds another compartment more strikingly magnificent; it contains the ashes of such kings and queens as have transmitted their august honours to their posterity. It is of an octagonal form, thirty-one feet in diameter, and thirty-two feet eight inches in height; it is placed beneath the chancel of the church, and is completely incrusted with beautiful marbles of various colours, and decorated with gilt bronze. The door opens on one of the octangles, and the altar is placed in a direction precisely opposite; the other six octangles are separated by sixteen double pilasters of the Corinthian order; twenty-four urns or tombs are arranged in the intervening intervals, four in each octangle; there are two others beyond the entrance, both of marble, resting on the claws of a lion, cast in bronze. Fourteen of these tombs are occupied by as many sovereigns, chiefly of the Austrian dynasty. Louis the First and Charles the Third are the only princes of the French line interred here; each sepulchre is distinguished by an appropriate inscription. A large bronze lamp, encircled by twenty-four chandeliers, is suspended from the centre. The altar is adorned with two fluted columns of marble, mixed with green and white, in the middle of which is a crucifix of gilded bronze attached to a cross of black marble.

A series of gardens open to the east and south of this edifice; they are supported by walls, and laid out in the form of terraces, which gives them the appearance of hanging gardens; they are on unequal ground, some are elevated, others low, and the greater part are disposed in the form of an amphitheatre; there is a communication between them by stairs, which are extremely convenient, and constructed with considerable ingenuity.

To the village of Escurial, which is scarcely a quarter of a league distant, is made a beautiful road, or rather a broad avenue, planted on both sides with lofty trees.

Another

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Another fine road conducts to Fresneria, a country house situated a quarter of a league to the east of the Escurial, and in the centre of which is a piazza, supported by Doric columns. The beautiful gardens are intersected by woods and meadows, filled with fountains, watered by streams embellished by basons, and small lakes well stored with fish; in the middle of one of the lakes rises a covered pavilion, adorned with eight columns, and surrounded by a little garden bordered by a balustrade.

The Escurial is sheltered by the lofty mountains which separate Old from New Castile; they are, in general, bare and uncultivated, and of a dreary, ungracious aspect; they are not, however, wholly destitute of pastures, and noble reservoirs have been constructed in them, from whence the water is conducted by an aqueduct, which replenishes ninety-two fountains, distributed in the various quarters of the palace, the convent, and the gardens of the Escurial. The summit of these mountains commands a view equally grand and extensive; the eye dicovers, in a single glance, a wide range of country, which is only terminated by the city of Madrid. A subterraneous corridor, called the Mina, arched with free-stone, leads from the village of Escurial to the palace, and affords an easy communication at all times independent of the weather.

Route from Madrid to Granja and St. Ildefonso.

There are two roads from Madrid to Granja, one of which, though very short and handsome, is so uniform as to become tedious; the other, which is more than four leagues in length, is much less smooth, but is more varied and amusing.

Passing

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Pursuing this direction, you traverse a naked country till you reach the village of Alcobendas, having previously passed Fuencarral, a small town containing about two thousand inhabitants, about a league and a half from Madrid, celebrated for its turnips, its vines, and its muscadine wine. From thence you cross a little mountain planted with oaks, and advance to a plain watered by the Xarama, whose banks are planted with villages. Having crossed a rivulet which takes its source at the village of San Augustino, you reach the mountain and village of Molar, well known for their mineral waters.

You now find your path diverge to a verdant country smiling with plenty, embosomed in vineyards and gardens, of a most pleasant, smiling, and picturesque aspect; you approach the rivulet Malacuera, whose banks are lined with trees, and next reach Torrelaguna. You soon perceive an opening in the valley through the small mountains which form its enclosure, and catch a glimpse of the village, or, more properly speaking, the ancient kingdom of the Patones, from whence the distance is short to Granja.

Torrelaguna, already mentioned, is a small town, delightfully situated, embosomed in verdure, at the foot of a range of hills which appear to terminate the plain of Xarama; it was the

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the country of cardinal Cisneros, so celebrated under the name of cardinal Ximenes. It has a parochial church, a monastery, and a nunnery. The church has three aisles, and is of a gothic character; it has a fine painting of the martyrdom of a saint, by Vincent Carducho, and a Magdalen, by Louis Sauveur Cremona; in this place was buried the poet John de Mena, whose only memorial is a simple inscription. The adjacent country is laid out in vineyards, and produces large quantities of wine.

GRANJA.

The site of this palace was originally nothing more than a colony, or community of religious Jeronimites from Segovia; it was purchased by Philip the Fifth for the purpose of erecting on it a royal residence, and, on his abdication, was the spot chosen for his retreat *. Several French artists were employed in its construction and embellishment; the groves and parterres were planted by Marchand, Pitue, and Dumandre; the gardens were laid out by Boutelou, whilst the fountains, statues, and sculptures were planned and prepared by Firmin and Thierry. The expence was estimated at 75,000,000 piastres, which is, perhaps, an exaggeration of the truth.

The exterior of the palace gives no promise of magnificence; towards the gardens it presents a handsome front, formed by eight Composite columns, bordered on each side by pilasters and semi-columns, which are surmounted by an attic with four Caryatides and two medallions; the whole terminates in a balustrade, adorned with splendid trophies.

* Its present name of Granja is derived from the word Grange, or farm, which designated its primitive destination.

The

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The apartments of the upper stories are stored with paintings from the best masters*.

The lower rooms contain above sixty antique statues, exclusive of busts, urns, and various monuments of antiquity, to the number of two hundred; these comprehend twelve principal divisions, which are worthy of a particular and minute examination.

The first contains two large statues of Julius Cæsar and Augustus, of gilded bronze and agate; a statue of Paris, a Cupid, a Venus, some allegories of day and night, six busts of the Roman emperors, and a round sepulchral urn, exhibiting, in bass-relief, a sacrifice to Bacchus.

The second compartment includes four antique columns of white marble, two other modern columns, an antique Venus with a modern head; a Narcissus, larger than life; a Bacchus, very diminitive; a Flora, an Apollo, which is noble; a Meleager, a beautiful Daphne, in a recumbent posture. Annexed to these are some pieces by Jerome Boscio and Benedict Castiglione.

The third presents two spiral columns of vermilion marble, an Antinous, a Hercules, a Ptolemy, a Jupiter, an Arachne, a Flora, of inferior merit; after these follow eight heads of emperors or divinities; a beautiful Faunus, covered with the skin of a tiger, and supported against the trunk of a tree; a small fawn, bearing a kid behind his neck; two Venuses, exquisitely beautiful, one, in the bath, half enveloped in drapery, holding in her hand a vase; the other, standing on the shore; there are two other exquisite statues, which have given rise to much conjecture, having been by some supposed to be Castor and Pollux, by others, to be two Genii sacrificing to Isis, or certain allegorical divinities connected with the Lares and Penates; they are also identified with the stars Hesperus and Lucifer, performing sacrifice to Jupiter, and with the Decii immolated for their country.

* It is calculated that the whole number of paintings is not less than a thousand.

In

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In the same compartment is a fine piece of Venus at her toilet, by Albano.

The fourth compartment is no less interesting; here are eight of the Muses (among whom Melpomene is absent) restored from a mutilated state by modern art; Pomona and Minerva also restored; two superb heads of Alexander and Antinous, with their busts; eight heads, some of which are admirably executed; in a nich, adorned with two columns of green marble, is an Apollo, seated, larger than life, bearing the sceptre; a modern work of Firmin and Thierry.

The fifth compartment presents beauties of a different character; eight columns of violet and yellow marble, from Cuenca, in New Castile, bands, pilasters, various marbles wrought into foliage; among others, the green stone of Granada; various modern busts of Roman emperors, six urns of porphyry, one of which is two feet six inches in height, two small ships of the same porphyry, two busts of children, one of whom is clad in a long robe.

The sixth compartment contains landscapes, some of which are from the province of Artois, others in the Flemish style, all produced by John Francis de Bologne; two allegorical pieces, in Mosaic work, representing Fame and Music, a colossal statue of Cleopatra, a Sybil, a Jupiter, a Paris, a small fawn, two bulls, below the natural size.

The seventh piece exhibits some smaller pictures, busts, and bass-reliefs; a recumbent child, crowned with flowers; an antique funeral urn, with an excellent bass-relief, supposed to be the birth of Minerva.

In the eighth compartment painting is associated with sculpture; of the latter there are two modern busts, six statues, modern also, and two children; of the former there is a head by Guido Rheni; a Susanna tempted by the Elders, by Tintoret; a Lucretia, imitated from Guido; the rape of the Sabines, from the school of Peter Cortona; fruit pieces, by Marinno Nanni.

The

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The ninth compartment is equally divided, by the chissel and the pencil; there is a statue of Seneca, small, but admirable; an allegorical statue of Faith; other statues of inferior value; a fruit piece, by Nanni; two pictures taken from Don Quixote, by Dominico Marie Sani.

In the tenth compartment are two colossal statues of Jupiter and Apollo, of no superior merit; two large statues, in the habit of priests, said to be a Julius Cæsar and an Augustus; various busts, and heads placed on tables and columns of mixed marble.

The eleventh compartment contains, in painting, the adulteries of Mars and Venus, copied from Julio Romano; and in sculpture, a beautiful head of Homer; three fine antique statues of Leda, Diana, and Venus; and a Ganymede, borne to Olympus on an eagle. This last piece is truly magnificent.

The twelfth compartment contains two large lions, an urn of porphyry, busts of the kings Philip the Fifth and Louis the First, those of their queens, and that of the dauphin of France, and others of Philip the Fifth.

In this temple of the arts there is also a gallery consecrated to admiration, by the beautiful collection of Christina, queen of Sweden; comprising statues, heads, busts, columns, bass-reliefs, antique sepulchral urns of bronze, marble, and porphyry.

The gardens form the principal attraction of Granja; it is pleasing to reflect, in contemplating those delightful scenes, that the industry of man called them into existence; and that human genius created the enchantment excited by the munificence of Philip, who in this respect vied with his ancestor, Louis the Fourteenth, and rendered Granja the rival of Versailles; it was human labour that changed the face of the country from a steep, rugged, barren spot, untenanted, and even uninhabitable, to an abode of delight, a delicious scene

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scene of beauty, amenity, and enjoyment; the original features of asperity were rendered attractive by the dispositions of taste; the irregularity of the ground, the rudeness of the soil, supplied inexhaustible sources of variety and interest to the landscape. In the formation of Granja there was long a perpetual conflict between art and nature; in some places the surface of the ground was elevated, in others depressed; eminences were levelled, the rugged cliff vanished, or if it was permitted to remain, was perforated for the transmission of copious streams; the dry, sterile, ungrateful rocks were converted into a scene of beauty and fertility, and the niggardly soils, which had scarcely afforded subsistence to mosses, were soon covered with the most luxuriant vegetation. The dense impracticable wood gave place to dignified avenues, or tasteful plantations; the stinted shrub and gloomy thicket receded for ornamented vallies and aromatic groves; exotics intermingled with indigenous plants; flowers of every climate, and fruits of every species, yielded their beauties or their fragrance, neither checked by a sordid soil, nor repelled by a rigid winter.

Streams, fountains, cascades, sheets of water, and ample reservoirs, were created with equal facility; the streams were directed in various channels; the embellishments, sculpture, and decorations, were multiplied without disorder or complexity. Numerous rivulets were drawn from the brow of the mountains; some of these are united in the river Eresma, others meandering through the different parts of the gardens, fall into an immense reservoir, from whence again dividing, they flow in different directions, some to replenish the fountains, and others to vivify the plantations.

Three beautiful alleys, planted with trees, and broken into lawns, extend to the left and east of the palace. All the charming variety of brooks, cascades, and fountains, are here again exhibited.

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The fountain of Neptune is eminently conspicuous; it rises over an ample bason, which forms a large square; the aquatic divinity appears with his imperial trident, standing on a car of shells, drawn by marine horses; it is preceded by the loves, who are encircled with tritons and dolphins, from whence water is perpetually poured forth. A beautiful triton, mounted on a dolphin, darts a rapid current from his mouth. Around the car are groups of children, borne on marine horses, led by tritons; the children are furnished with cornucopias, from whence water is thrown to the height of thirty-five feet.

A superb decoration is displayed on a large bason at some distance from the fountain of Neptune. The allegorical statues of the Ebro and the Segro, two considerable rivers of Spain, are supported on pedestals, the ornaments of which are made to imitate ices and chrystallizations. From the heads of two monsters fall torrents of water; a beautiful stone staircase leads to an ample bason, with three cascades; one of them is decorated by two dragons spouting water; the other presents the head of a marine monster, who pours forth streams for three cascades; the third is distinguished by a group of figures, among others, by an Apollo with his lyre, trampling on the serpent Python, (who spouts water to the height of thirty-two feet,) and an allegorical figure of Virtue triumphing over Envy, and holding an olive branch; two of the dragons are also exhibited dashing water to the height of fifty-two feet, whilst four diminutive loves appear enticing them to withdraw from the wrath of Apollo.

A rapid flight of steps, surrounded by a balustrade, leads to a grand parterre, adorned with vases and statues. An area is here discovered in the shape of a half moon; it contains a large circular bason, in which Andromache appears enchained; Perseus, a sword in one hand, and the head of Medusa in the other, rushes to her deliverance, whilst a monster, issuing from the cavity of a rock, dashes from

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from his scales a torrent of water, and from his mouth pours forth a cataract eighteen yards in diameter, which rises to an elevation of ninety-nine feet; Minerva, armed with her lance and shield, appears on the opposite shore.

In another parterre, fronting the palace, is a beautiful cascade, adorned with marbles of different shades. The water falls from thence into a semicircular bason, in the centre of which appears Amphitrite in his car, drawn by four dolphins, which dart forth water to a considerable height. A Zephyr and three Naiads present to the goddess coral and pearls, whilst four groups of children are represented playing with swans, from whom, and from the heads of eight Zephyrs, water is spouted forth in abundance. The allegorical figures of the two rivers of Spain, the Tagus, and the Guadiana, are placed on marble steps; beneath them the allegorical figures of Glory, Magnificence, Asia, Europe, Spring, and a Dryad, holding in her hand a bow, and followed by a setting-dog, and a shepherd who is caressing a kid. With these figures are intermingled eight vases, adorned with bass-reliefs; the height is filled by various animals with various cascades, beneath which are represented marine horses bearing children, who have each a trident in the hand. In a corresponding spot is a circular bason, with a fountain in the middle, formed by four Tritons, with marine trumpets; they sustain a large bason, above which three nymphs standing, support a smaller bason. This also supports a child grasping a fish, from whose gullet is spouted a stream of water sufficiently copious to produce the current of the cascade.

The view of this cascade is superb and picturesque and the various figures, and diversified groups, with falls of water equally varied, united in a space of three hundred feet, there cannot but be something grand and attractive. The effect is heightened by the sight of a square pavilion, which appears to terminate the scene. The four sides of this edi-

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fice are ornamented with Ionic pilasters, and with a gate surmounted by the arms of Spain; the interior is incrusted with marbles of various shades, adorned with eight pilasters of the Composite order, with four statues of nymphs and various musical instruments in marble.

Turning from this cascade to the south, you discover a circular bason, in which Eolus, seated on a rock, exhibits the chain with which he confines the winds. The winds are represented by various heads scattered over the rocks; eight of them are arranged amid groups of clouds, disposed with so much art, that the waters which dash against them imitate the conflict and agitation of the winds.

The next interesting object is the Pannier fountain; four Tritons support a pannier filled with various fruits; nine streams of water run from thence to the heighth of sixty-two feet; thirty-two other streams bubble round the pannier, assuming the form of arches, vaults, and a variety of sportive images.

Another splendid aquatic spectacle is exhibited at the fountain of Latona: on the road to it you discover some beautiful lawns, adorned with statues of the Muses, Apollo, and Hunters. There is one in particular into which eight alleys open, called de las Ocho Calles; in the centre is a fine group of Apollo and Pandora, resting on a pedestal. At the opening of each of these alleys is raised a marble bason, beneath a large arcade embellished with statues of divinities, and several cascades which fall in different forms.

The fountain of Latona, or of the frogs, is placed in the centre of a bason, about forty feet in diameter. An octagonal pedestal supports a group of Diana, Latona, and Apollo, in an attitude of supplication to the gods; eight frogs, encircling this group, spout forth water; whilst eight monster heads, disposed at the eight angles, shower water on the steps; whilst a correspondent number of frogs spout forth streams, which, mingling with those of the frogs in the upper

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upper circle, form arches, of which the effect is no less striking than curious. In like manner the streams rushing forth, the monster heads commingle together, and produce a sort of aquatic fan in perpetual undulation around the fountain; and the group of sixteen frogs, with eight human figures, transformed from the waist to frogs, pour forth cascades falling in forms equally strange and fantastic.

Not far from this spot is another spacious area, embellished with magnificent vases, and the statues of eight Nymphs in the huntress garb, raised on pedestals. The fountain of the baths of Diana is in the middle, in a large bason, of an irregular shape, from two hundred and fifty to three hundred feet in its different diameters. In the centre of this bason rises a large body of white marble to the heighth of forty-three feet; it terminates in a large leaden vase in imitation of marble, from whence is precipitated a copious stream of water; it is flanked on each side by a smaller body, and by a group formed by a lion and serpents, which also pour forth water; beneath appears the head of a marine monster, foaming a torrent, which falls into the bason. A grotto, ornamented with shells, and different marine bodies, is yet lower; Anthæus, seated on a rock, is discovered playing on the flute; two cascades fall at the two sides of this grotto, on four basons, placed one over the other, the last of which is supported by two sirens. The whole body of water rushes down three steps of variegated marble, which surround the bottom of the grotto, and falls into a bason, where a bevy of Nymphs are seen lavishing caresses on fishes. On the middle step is seated Diana, encircled with Nymphs, who screen her from the eyes of Actæon. In a moment the Nymphs and Goddess are covered with as sheet of water, which, rushing from a hundred pipes, completely envelopes them from view. At this moment the spectator receives an impression as strange as unexpected; he is struck with a confusion of sounds, in which

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the tones of different species of animals seem blended together; and the melodious songs of birds are mingled with the roaring of ferocious beasts. This curious effect is produced by most skilful and felicitous management from the incessant murmurs of the water which thus perpetually fascinate and perplex the ear.

There yet remains to be explored a beautiful parterre, embellished with the fountain of Fame. A rock of lead, coloured in marble, rises in the middle of a long oval bason, bearing on its summit the statue of Fame seated on Pegasus. The winged deity casts a column of water, two inches in diameter, to the height of a hundred and twelve feet, which, falling like a shower of rain, displays the most beautiful prismatic colours in reflecting a ray of light from the sun. There are four martial figures, armed with bows and arrows, and bucklers, precipitated at the feet of Pegasus. The four principal rivers of Spain, the Tagus, the Duero, the Guadalquivir, and the Ebro, are sustained on grottos, at the foot of the rock: they pour from their urns an immense volume of water, which falls into the bason, whilst dolphins also cast water through the mouth and nostrils.

SAINT ILDEFONSO.

In the vicinity of la Granja a small town has gradually arisen, comprising a population of four thousand three hundred inhabitants, which bears the name of St. Ildefonso. It is the residence of the intendant of the royal house, and of the district of la Granja, and of St. Ildefonso. It has a parochial church, a collegiate chapter, a hospital, a governor, and several manufactories.

The collegiate chapter is composed of an abbot, who presides over it, of twelve canons, six prebends, six subprebends, and of four chaplains; it has a chapel for music. From the era of their creation the abbots have always possessed

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sessed the power of archbishops *in partibus infidelium*; they are subject to no archbishop, and exercise a jurisdiction in a manner episcopal in the territory of their abbey, which includes nine villages, and six parochial churches. They have at the same time the authority of judges in civil cases.

The collegiate church contains the mausoleum of Philip the Fifth, composed of different marbles, with bronze ornaments. It was executed jointly by Pitue and Dumandré. The tomb is placed on a pedestal; it supports an urn placed on a square; on each side is fixed a statue, one in an attitude of grief, the other representing Charity. Two medallions are placed above them, in which are the portraits of Philip the Fifth, and his queen, both enveloped by a veil, which Fame appears endeavouring to remove. Behind the tomb is raised a pyramid, surmounted by a vase of perfumes. The arms of Spain, supported by an angel and a child, are placed beneath. On the pedestal is the following inscription:

PHILIPPO V,
PRINCIPI MAXIMO,
OPTIMO PARENTI,
FERDINANDUS VI.
POSUIT.

There is no complexity in this mausoleum, but there is something interesting in its simplicity.

Several manufactories have been established in this town.

There is one for steel and iron, hitherto of little importance.

There is another for lawns and coarse cloth, established by royal authority in 1782. It gives employment to twenty looms, and two large machines for washing and fulling the cloth.

There is also a glass-house, in which bottles are wrought of a superior quality; and white glasses, which are carved

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with much ingenuity. Near this glass-house has been founded a manufactory for mirrors, in a large and well-arranged edifice. There are two furnaces, and a considerable number of stoves, in which the plates are left to cool after they have been precipitated. They are of all dimensions, and the largest that have yet been fabricated. They are sometimes from a hundred, a hundred and thirty, or a hundred and thirty-five inches in height, to fifty, sixty, or sixty-five inches in breadth: they are expanded in the hand. The process for polishing them is performed by a machine; they are then transported to Madrid, for the purpose of being metallized. It is not uncommon to see tables of bronze, on which mirrors are extended, a hundred and sixty inches in length, and ninety in breadth.

Itinerary from Madrid to Aranjuez and the Frontiers of la Mancha, Nine Leagues *

Madrid.	
Manzanarez river, and the bridge of Toledo.	
Pinto, a Town	3 leagues.
Valdemero, a Town	1
Xarama, a River and Bridge	2
The Tagus, River and Bridge } Aranjuez }	1
Frontiers from la Mancha to Ocana	2

Having left the gates of Madrid, the traveller soon approaches the river Manzanarez, which is fordable, but over which is thrown the bridge of Toledo. He immediately enters on a level

* Road from Madrid to Murcia, Carthagena, and Valencia.

handsome

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handsome road, which, without any deviation, conducts him in a straight line to Aranjuez. He meets with little variety in the landscape; his track is tedious and monotonous, along a spacious plain, without shade or verdure, six leagues in extent, and finally terminated by the valley of Aranjuez.

In the course of three hours he arrives at Pinto, a small town, with about two thousand inhabitants, sufficiently important to have a parochial church, a monastery, and a nunnery: in another hour he reaches Valdemoro, another small town, formerly eminent for its commerce and agriculture; it was founded by the Moors, and was once a royal residence. Its primitive name was Valle de Miro, or Valle de Moro, which literally signifies a valley inhabited by Moors. This town is situated in a valley, fruitful in wheat, wine, and oil; it was at one period much more considerable, but its population is now reduced to four thousand eight hundred inhabitants. It has a parochial church, two convents for both sexes, and a famous fair at Hallowmas, which lasts twenty days. It was the native place of Didace Pantoja, so well known by his theological essays, who died in 1618. A few years since a manufactory was established in it, for cloths, lace, ribbons, stockings, silk stockings, woollen stuffs, linen, and cotton.

The

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The traveller has to pursue this road two hours; at length he approaches a gentle declivity, and advances to the valley of Aranjuez. Not far distant is the Xarama, over which is a handsome bridge, erected by Mark de Vierna, under the auspices of Charles the Third, in 1761.

At this spot the aspect of the country changes; the wide wastes and naked plains vanish from view, and by a rapid transition the traveller finds himself transported to a delicious valley, where every object conspires to persuade him that he approaches new regions, and is no longer under the influence of an ungenial climate.

The road is shaded by lofty trees; the eye reposes on verdure, whilst the ear is constantly saluted by the murmers of brooks or water-falls. The deep foliage of the neighbouring woods corresponds in verdure with the neighbouring meadows, which are enlivened by an intermixture of the gayest and most beautiful flowers; every thing bespeaks the presence of industry and fertility, the happy co-operation of assiduous culture and a fruitful soil; and the active powers of the sap are here demonstrated by a strong and vigorous vegetation; the proximity of the Tagus is the real source of this lavish munificence of nature.

It is delightful to bewilder yourself in this enchanting spot, till you almost insensibly approach

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proach the borders of that celebrated river, whose name has been immortalized in romance and poetry. You advance to a circular space, called Las doce Calles, in which terminate twelve alleys, or avenues, formed by long and noble lines of trees. Having struck into one of these avenues, you soon discover the Tagus, over which is laid a bridge of boats, surmounted by an iron balustrade, and thus enter Aranjuez.

A succession of striking objects is here presented to the view; in front you are attracted by the magnificent square of St. Antony; on the right you discover the beautiful gardens behind the palace; on the left two handsome streets, in the Dutch taste, where trees intermingled with houses raise their verdant tops beyond the roofs of the edifices.

In leaving Aranjuez you go through St. Antony's-square, and the gate contiguous to the church of that name; the road is here a spacious avenue, planted on both sides with trees. You soon begin to ascend, by a gentle rise, the mountains to the south of Aranjuez. For the long labour of this gradual ascent, you are, on turning back, amply repaid by a most delightful prospect.

The eye first glances on the site of Aranjuez; it explores the palace, and beyond it reposes with pleasure on a verdant canopy, formed by the immense

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immense number of trees which screen and almost envelope that city. Through the dark foliage of the surrounding woods, you catch at intervals a glimpse of the Tagus, whose blue waters are bordered by lawns of the most delicious verdure; from thence the eye ranges over a wide track of country, richly diversified, and finally rests on the lofty ridge of mountains which abruptly terminate the distant horizon.

On resuming the ascent, you again proceed for another quarter of an hour, over a mountainous track, rude and bare, but through a broad, smooth, open road, to Ocana. You here meet with a gentle declivity, which conducts you to three ample vallies; they are all wild and arid; the first is partially cultivated; the second presents a better aspect, and affords in the back ground some wooded inclosures; the third is beautifully fertile, and richly diversified with corn-fields, olive plantations, and vineyards; here and there it presents a deep shade of verdure, and is in some places bordered with turf and wild flowers.

On emerging from these vallies, you again advance to the mountains, the circuit of which is completed in a quarter of an hour. The town of Ocana is discovered standing on an eminence; it is approached by a gentle slope, and marks the entrance to la Mancha.

Itinerary

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Itinerary from Madrid to Toledo, Twelve Leagues.

Madrid.	leagues.
Manzanarez, river and bridge Toledo.	
Venta of Prado longo	½
Getane or Getafe, small town	1½
Venta of Torrejon	2
Illescas, village	2
Yùncas, village	1
Cabanas, village	2
Olias, small town	2
Toledo, town	2

On departing from Madrid you pass through the gate of Toledo; then crossing the bridge raised over the Manzanarez,* you approach the Venta del Prado longo. In an hour and a half you may reach a small town, called indiscriminately Getane or Getafe; it is now fallen into decay, and its population has dwindled from twelve to five thousand inhabitants. It has a handsome parochial church, of ample extent, with three Gothic aisles, separated by large majestic columns; those which are placed in the centre appear isolated. The principal altar is a fine specimen of architecture, and is embellished with paintings, which refer to various

* It was erected under Philip the Third; it is large and substantial, but heavy and elaborate; the parapets are encumbered with ornaments totally destitute of taste.

epochs

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epochs in the life of Mary Magdalen. They are by Alphonso Carno. On the two collateral altars are two pieces from the same artist, of superior merit: these are Jesus as a child, and the Virgin of Peace. Leaving Getane the traveller resumes his route; in two hours he passes the Venta de Torrejon, and in two more arrives at Illescas.

The country lying between this place and Madrid is uniformly dreary, barren, and disagreeable, and presents not a single tree to the eye.

Illescas is a small town, whose population, though considerably reduced, still amounts to two thousand souls. It has five churches, two convents, and a hospital. It is celebrated for an image of the Blessed Virgin, which is supposed to have been originally in the oratory of St. Ildefonso. The Franciscan Church contains a fine portrait of the Virgin, and two monuments in commemoration of Gedeon Kinojosa, and Catharine Velasco, his wife, the founder of the convent. The two tombs exhibit the usual appendages of frontispieces and pilasters. The statues of the founders as large as life, are discovered in a kneeling posture; they are constructed of marble, and admirably executed. These monuments were raised by Dominico Teocopoli, popularly known by the appellation of the Greek, and as a sculptor, an architect, and

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and a painter, almost equally distinguished. The church of the hospital of charity has six altars, which were also constructed by the Greek; they are distinguished by the simple elegance of the architecture. They have each two Doric columns. The principal altar has double columns of the Corinthian order. Here are also some beautiful statues of the prophets; some fine allegorical paintings of the Blessed Virgin, which are likewise the productions of the same artist, and an admirable portrait of St. Ildefonso.

Proceeding from Illescas, you pass the village of Yuncas and Cabanas, and a few leagues beyond these places arrive at Olias, a very small town, but the most agreeable of any on the road, and the only one which affords any fruit-bearing trees. It is but two leagues from Toledo, the entrance to which is by the gate of Visagra.

The country included in the four last leagues bears the name of Sagra, the road which has been cut through it is called Visagra, which, according to some fanciful etymologists, is a corruption of Via Sacra, supposed to be its primitive name, whilst others, with more probability, simply derive it from the gate of Toledo, which marks its termination. This subject has, however, given rise to other disquisitions, equally characterized by conjectural ingenuity; and whilst

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whilst some antiquaries ascribe to it the Arabian origin of Bab-Clacra, or red gate, as descriptive of the red tints of the adjacent earth, others discover a more plausible solution in the Arabian epithet Bab-Sahra, or the gate to the fields.

Itinerary from Madrid to Requena, and the Frontiers of the Kingdom of Valencia, forty-four Leagues. *

Madrid	
Vacia Madrid, village	3 leagues.
Perales, village	3
Fuenti Duenas, village	3
Frontiers of the kingdom of Valencia	35

This road is connected at Fuenti Duenas with that which leads from Aranjuez to the frontier of Valencia.

Itinerary from Aranjuez to Requena, and the Frontier of the Kingdom of Valencia, four Leagues. †

Aranjuez.	
Villamanrique, Fuenti Duenas	7 leagues.
Tarancon, town	3

* The old post road from Madrid to Valencia; it is only practicable to horses.

† Old post road from Aranjuez to Valencia; in some parts impassable to carriages.

Villarubio

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Villarubio, village	1 league.
Castle of Ucles	1
Saelices, town	1
Montalva, village, Congosto, village, Villar de Suz, village	6
Olivarez, village	3
Bonache, village	3
La Motilla, village	4
River Cabriel, and the bridge Pajazo, Venta de las Contreras	5
Villagardo, village	2
Requena, town	4
Frontier of the kingdom of Valencia at the mountain las Cabrillas	2

We depart from Aranjuez by the promenade called la Reyna, at the extremity of which is a path to the left, which soon terminates in a wide desolate country, where not one vestige is visible of the olives or vineyards so lately quitted.

The road constantly winds near the Tagus; but its banks are not planted with trees, and the adjacent districts present neither vegetation nor verdure, culture nor population. In this scene of dreariness, the traveller is, however, suddenly surprised by a view of tufted trees clustering round a little hamlet of ten or twelve houses pleasantly sheltered by their cool refreshing shade. Close by, he perceives a brook winding along in a serpentine track, whilst two wa-

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ter-falls, so judiciously disposed as to keep two mills in motion, produce an artificial torrent, picturesque to the eye and pleasing to the ear. In another hour the traveller reaches Villamanrique, an insignificant village, and soon after Fuenti Duenas, a place of greater extent, but where every thing announces want and wretchedness.

Hitherto, the country traversed has been almost uniformly dry, barren, dreary, and desolate.

After a distance of three leagues, the road leads to Tarancon, a small town with about four thousand inhabitants. An hour after the traveller reaches the village of Villarubio; and in another the Castle of Ucles, now tenanted by monks, but formerly a fortress of considerable strength. In 1108 it was the scene of a dreadful carnage between the Spaniards and the Almoravidan Moors, in which the infant don Sancho, the only son of Alphonso the First, and seven Counts, were slain. The remembrance of this fatal action was perpetuated under the name of the day of the Seven Counts. At no great distance from this castle is a fountain from whence the river Ucles takes its source. Its motion is that of an incessant whirlpool, attended by harsh sounds and perpetual reverberation.

Pro-

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Proceeding from thence to the small town of Saelices, you perceive on a distant eminence the remains of an old entrenchment, either formed by the Moors or against them; from hence to Villar includes a distance of six leagues. In this track you pass the villages of Montalva and Congosto, both pleasantly situated. From Villar de Suz the road runs through a naked unequal country, little improved by industry, but here and there intersected with patches of cultivation.

For two leagues and a half the country wears the same ungracious aspect, when you delve into a sort of shell, formed by an almost circular inclosure of hills, embosomed in which lies the picturesque village of Olivarez; the road is still uneven, and in some places extremely rugged; the adjacent country appears to bear the curse of sterility, neither fields, plantations, nor houses are visible. After a tedious progression of three hours, we arrive at Bonaco, where saffron is cultivated. To the left of the road, in the cleft of the mountain, is a spacious grotto, extremely narrow at the entrance, which is filled with stalactites; the road affords no variety; and the country retains its uninteresting appearance. At the end of five tedious hours you reach the village of la Motilla, where also saffron is found in abundance.

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On leaving la Motilla the road becomes rugged, slippery, and often dangerous; it pursues the steep acclivities of those mountains, which, under the name of las contreras, inspire so much terror in travellers. You are often obliged to crawl in your ascent, and slowly advance from summit to summit along a range of mountains rapidly succeeding one another. The road is nothing more than a narrow path, where two horses could scarcely pass; and often verges on a tremendous precipice, where a single step might consign the traveller to inevitable destruction; it frequently winds along the cliffs, or is impeded by the trunks of trees, though the eye explores neither culture nor population, and discovers but a dreary, desolated, terrific waste.

Having traversed four leagues in the most irksome manner conceivable, the traveller descends rapidly by a tortuous path, and suddenly finds himself in ease and security; he discovers a narrow vale, cloathed with verdure, and presenting a most delightful contrast to the rude uninhabitable region he has just passed; he is once more refreshed by the view of foliage and vegetation, and travels with delight on the borders of the river Cabriel.

Resuming his descent, he enters the valley and crosses the Cabriel over a stone bridge called the Pajazo; contiguous to it stands the Venta de las Contreras; from hence you have a glimpse

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a glimpse of the entrance to a deep cavern, which penetrates to the very recesses of the mountain you have just left.

Not far from this spot, but on the same mountains, three leagues from la Motilla, is a spacious salt-pit, called Minglanilla, the produce of which belongs exclusively to the king; it consists of a series of dark and deep caverns, to which you descend by two hundred steps hollowed in the rock, and spangled with saline concretions, which, by torch-light, shine like gems, sometimes preserving the form of pellucid chrystals, or assuming a bright vermilion tint. They are commonly mixed with gypseous earth. It is supposed that this mine has been worked from the time of the Romans; it gives employment to thirty men, and is the source of considerable profit to the proprietors.

Having crossed the bridge of Pajazo, you turn to the left, and plunge into a stream which extends to some little distance; but soon emerging from it, you climb a steep rugged cliff, and in about two hours arrive at Villagordo, a sorry village, thinly peopled, embosomed in woods.

The road now winds through paths encumbered with trees, sometimes traversing a forest of pines, or a plantation of dwarf oaks, sometimes opening on a tract of arable land, presenting an agreeable variety of fruitful fields.

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We now approach a spacious plain, eminently favoured from nature, and assiduously improved by cultivation. The soil is rich, the climate friendly to vegetation; vineyards, corn-fields, and pastures, are lavishly interposed. The country produces wine, wheat, and flax, in abundance, it is singularly embellished by its mulberry plantations; and is intersected by canals. The little river of Caudete distributes the waters, and with them the principles of health, life, and fecundity. The transition to this delightful scene is so sudden, that it appears like a dream of the imagination, and we almost believe ourselves transported into another hemisphere.

In four hours we proceed from Villagordo to Requena. On the coasts we leave the villages of Mira, Campo-roble, and Fuente-roble, and the towns of Caudete and Uriel.

Requena stands on an eminence commanding the delicious plain we have already described; it contains about six or seven thousand inhabitants, and is under the administration of a corregidor; it has an economical society, three parochial churches, and three religious houses, including one nunnery and two monastic establishments. This place wears the chearful aspect of industry and wealth, activity and plenty. The harvest is commonly good; the vintage abundant. There are no less than eight hundred

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dred looms employed in the manufacture of stuffs and silk-ribbands, which are regularly transmitted to Seville, Cadiz, and Madrid. The environs of Requena present a succession of agreeable scenes. The country appears one delicious garden, whose clustering fruits expand in beautiful luxuriance.

We resume the mountainous track with reluctance, and enter the Cabrillas, a name derived from the immense number of goats which brouze on their summits. The road is steep and difficult; it deviates alternately from the projecting cliff above to the cavernous pass beneath; it is sometimes excavated from the rock; and sometimes interrupted by sloughs: here and there is a path so strait and narrow as to be scarcely accessible, involved in labyrinthian windings and complexities, remote from every human habitation, and to render it completely perilous, infested with thieves and freebooters, who harbour here in a safe retreat impregnable to the ministers of justice. In two hours, however, this perilous pilgrimage is completed, and the traveller reaches the boundary of New Castile and Valencia.

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Itinerary from Madrid to Requena, to the Frontiers of the Kingdom of Valencia, passing through Cuenca in the Sierra de Cuenca, fifty-five Leagues.

From Madrid to	
Ballecas, small town	1 league.
Arganda, hamlet	3
Perales, village	2
Villarejo de Salvanes, town	1
Fontiduena, village	2
Velinchon, village	2
Tarancon, town	1
Huelves, hamlet	2
Paredes, hamlet	1
Huete, town	2
Ver del pino, village	2
Caracenilla, village	3½
Caracena, a burgh	3
Javaga, village	4
Cuenca, town	2½
Valera, the lower town	5
Valera, the upper town	1
Bonaco de Arlacon, town	2
Arlacon, town	2
Villa-Nueva del Xara, town	3
Iniesta, town	2
Villa-Gordo, village	3
Venta de Contreras	3
Requena, or Requegna, town	2

In

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In rainy seasons the road from Madrid to Ballecas is rendered perilous by a stream called Brenigal, which rushes through it, and when the floods swell, acquires the force and rapidity of a torrent. Many travellers have perished in attempting to ford this stream, to avoid a bridge of yet more terrific appearance; it is astonishing that such a road as this should remain within a league of Madrid, and even in the very village from whence the capital receives its daily supply of provisions. The roads are, however, almost equally bad in the vicinity of Madrid. The stream that flows through Ballecas is shaded with poplars, whose beauty sufficiently proves how well they are adapted to the soil and situation.

Ballecas, or Vallecas, is a wide straggling place, which affords a large supply of bread to Madrid. The parochial church is a handsome edifice; in the front is a gate of the Doric order, with two columns on each side; and the frieze is decorated with thiaras and double keys, symbolical ornaments alluding to St. Peter, from whom it has received its name. Above are four small pyramids, and in the centre a bass relief of the holy apostle. In the interior of the edifice is one chapel, dedicated to St. Catharine. There is also another to our Lady of Carmen. The principal altar is a fine piece of architecture. In the sacristy is a fine picture of the

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the Conception, by Alonzo del Arco, and another of superior merit, representing St. Peter's deliverance, by the angel, from the prison; it is painted in the manner of Angelo Nardi. This town is eminent for the care and diligence of its husbandmen. The state of agriculture is not, however, so perfect as not to be still susceptible of improvement.

The country lying between Ballecas and Arganda bears the same aspect. You have to pass a wide sandy tract, till you perceive a few houses near the junction of the rivers Manzanarez and Jeroma, which form the village of Vacia-Madrid. The road gently slopes, but in a rainy season is execrable. At some distance we discover a sandy country, and pass the river Jarama in a boat; but sometimes, from the swelling of the floods the traveller is obliged to make a circuit of five or six leagues, in order to reach a long bridge, erected on the road from Madrid to Aranjuez. The construction of a bridge over the Jeroma, and of a causeway along the sandy road would be productive of real benefit, not only to travellers but the whole district. Having crossed this river we perceive on its borders, and in the circumjacent country, several woods and smaller forests, well stocked with game, and sufficiently profitable to the respective proprietors. One of these is annexed to the archbishopric of Toledo, the other called

Del

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Del Paul, is the property of the Monks of the Escurial. Leaving the shady shores of the Jarama, we have to traverse for a league over a sandy flat country, to reach Arganda, whose environs are rendered particularly agreeable by the number of small gardens verging on its precincts, and the beautiful plantations of olive trees that cloathe the hills and eminences in its neighbourhood.

Arganda. This little town has about six hundred inhabitants; to the left you discover Mejorada, and, situated on a mountain, the town of Del Campo, the spires of whose principal church are sufficiently elevated to be discovered at a considerable distance. Two hundred oxen are kept in Arganda for the labours of husbandry. There is here a kind of public walk in a declivity, divided into two alleys, and planted with trees, for the most part corresponding with those that embellish the promenades of Madrid.

From Arganda to Perales we have to proceed two leagues over a poorly cultivated soil; on approaching the village we descend a steep bank, to the entrance of a valley through which winds the river Tajuna in its vicinity, over some plantations of hemp with a few gardens; the village contains but two hundred inhabitants. From Perales to the bridge is about a quarter of a league; a league is

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is the computed distance to Villarejo, but in reality it falls little short of two.

Villarejo. This city contains seven hundred inhabitants, there is a plantation of olive trees near it, but the circumjacent country is rude and uncultivated; the parochial church, which is a gothic pile, tolerably large and handsome, belongs to the religious order of St. James; its principal altar is fine, and some of the paintings are executed by Pedro Orente. Villarejo de Salvanes belongs to the infante duke of Parma. On leaving this city you follow for a quarter of a league an olive wood, and cross a mountain covered with oaks. You have no sooner entered Fontiduena than you discover on an eminence to the left a castle, which from its situation and its walls has the appearance of a fortress.

Fontiduena has a pleasant site, near the Tagus. Having crossed this river in a boat you approach a wide fertile plain, which by extensive irrigation might be rendered a delicious spot, at present it is fertilized only by rain. Having advanced two leagues you arrive at Velinchon, which commands an acclivity, and from thence descend into another plain contiguous to Tarancon. The fields produce wheat and other species of grain, but the country no where discovers the traces of careful culture. Velinchon has about two hundred inhabitants.

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inhabitants. Before you reach Tarancon, you ascend at the extremity of the plain a high hill, on whose summit are a number of windmills.

Tarancon is a small town, with more than a thousand inhabitants; its edifices are commonly ill built, although the materials of which they are constructed are in general very good; the streets are vilely paved, the water is of a detestable flavour; but to remedy that inconvenience, a supply of this first necessary of life is procured from a distant place called Zarza. As some compensation for these disadvantages, the inhabitants have a luxuriant vintage, which produces a hundred and fifty thousand arobas, and is perhap of the best quality of La Mancha; they are also well supplied with oil, but have little garden ground, and are as ill provided with pulse as fruit. It appears that formerly the parochial church was an antique pile, but under Philip the Second was repaired and modernized; some remains of the gothic style are, however, still visible in the grand chapel; the interior is spacious, and divided into three aisles, In the exterior of the church there are three fronts, that towards the east is Gothic, that towards the north has four Ionic columns, placed on pedestals, and executed with admirable taste. Tarancon is the native town of Melchoir Cano, an able theologian.

Huelves.

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Huelves. This place is situated on the declivity of a hill, on which the remains of some ancient fortifications are still visible. At Paredes there are but a few straggling houses; from thence to Hueta the country is perfectly desert, and two villages only intervene, Vellisea and Alcazar; the road approaches another which is now desolate and in ruins.

Hueta (or Huete), is a tolerably handsome town, sufficiently populous to contain six hundred hearths. You discover here a castle of considerable strength, situated on a spring, or rather a rivulet; it has eight parishes, three monasteries, two nunneries, and a monk's hospital of the order of St. Benedict. The front of the church of our Lady of Mercy is adorned with Doric columns; the Dominican convent, though old, is handsome; the convent of religious females, of the order of St. Lorenzo, is worth notice; there are in the church twelve pictures by Pablo Matteis; which cannot but extort attention, even from amateurs. The stream which supplies this town with water puts several mills in motion, and insulates the gardens and hemp plantations, the annual produce of which is estimated at six hundred arobas. At Hueta there is also collected a quantity equal to twenty arobas of Saffron.

Having quitted Hueta, which is fifteen leagues north west of Cuenca, you discover in the adjacent

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jacent country different species of culture, You proceed to Ver del pino, leaving to the right the little territory of Langa. At Caracenilla the country becomes mountainous; on the other side of a stream, almost enveloped in trees, you discover Castillejo. At Caracena the country flattens; whilst far distant to the right and left you descry the steeples belonging to some little village churches, and you enter the territory of Val del Colmenas, whose hamlet is opposite to the villages of Penuela and Val Metero. Having advanced to Javaga, you ford a rivulet, which at some little distance falls into the river Jucar. On the left you behold the mountains of Arcos, separated from Cuenca by the Jucar, which again presents itself at the distance of a league, whilst Cuenca appears girded with a ridge of mountains. In the southern parts of this extensive sierra, are rich well pastured plains; such are those of Zafra, Almareha, and Santa-Maria, on the south of the river Zancara, which are enclosed between the Jucar and the Rus; and those of Torre-Joncillo, of Avia, Villar-de-Aguila, and Villar-de-Canas, lying north and west of the river Zancara. These countries recall to remembrance the ancient pictures of patriarchal life; you find in them whatever was comprehended in the primitive idea of plenty and felicity, the vine and the fig-tree, and a land flowing with milk and honey.

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honey. The climate is mild and genial; the care of bees forms no inconsiderable object of profit with the natives, who raise also some grain, a small quantity of flax and hemp, with pulse and fruits.

Cuenca (Concha), the capital of the Sierra, is the seat of a bishopric, a suffragan of the diocese of Toledo, with an ecclesiastical revenue of sixty thousand crowns. The city of Cuenca was given by Ben-Abet, a Moorish king of Seville, in dower with his daughter Zaida, on her marriage with the Christian king Alphonso the Sixth, who in 1072 emerged from the cloister to succeed his brother on the throne. The place was afterwards wrested from that prince by the revolted Moors, but was retaken by him in 1106. Among the illustrious captains who on this occasion seconded the views of their intrepid sovereign, were Vavillos, Valasquez, Trillos, Minagas, Zurraguinez, &c. It was the unhappy destiny of this town to fall again into the hands of the enemy, but it was re-conquered in the twelfth century by Alphonso the Ninth, who is not only celebrated as the conqueror of Cuenca, but as the founder of its cathedral.

Situation and Extent. Cuenca stands on an eminence which lies between two hills of more elevated aspect; it is divided by two cavities, or rather gulphs, into which are precipitated the rivers Huecar and Jucar or Xucar. The walls, which commence at the foot of the hill, are carried up to an extraordinary

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extraordinary height; there are six gates to the city, the streets are uneven and steep at the entrance, and some of them cannot be ascended without difficulty and danger. There have been instances of mules at the end of a day's journey sinking under their burthens in these tremendous streets, and sometimes in attempting to reach the summit they have perished with fatigue.

Population. This city is supposed to contain six thousand inhabitants.

Clergy. There are here an episcopal palace, thirteen parishes, a college, a cathedral, six monasteries, and six nunneries.

Public Institutions. In these are included a seminary, three colleges, a monk's hospital of Mercy, two hospitals, one of St. Anthony, the other of St. Jago.

Curious Edifices. The cathedral is of a noble Gothic plan, and forms a semi-circle towards the principal altar; it is composed of three aisles, separated by arches and columns, which are also Gothic. The church is more than three hundred feet in length, and in breadth, including the cloister, extends a hundred and eighty feet. The front view presents none of those fanciful ornaments which assimilate with the Gothic character; on the contrary it is perfectly plain, and the gate in particular exhibits almost an uncouth simplicity. This extreme nakedness is the more remarkable as the vicinity of Cuenca produces quarries of jasper marble, admirably adapted to the purposes of architecture. In the interior of the cathedral is a chapel dedicated to the Twelve Apostles, who are painted on the principal altar, the decoration of which is composed of four columns of the Doric order, and the same number of the Corinthian. The front of the cloister is truly admirable; its ornaments are in the happiest taste, and of the most perfect execution. In the chapter-room it is impossible not to be struck with the singular beauty of the doors, which are simply of walnut wood; the seats that surround this hall are of the same material, prepared with

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the utmost care and neatness. The treasury and the sacristy contain a number of vases of the most precious materials, particularly an ostensoir, which weighs 616 marks of silver, and the fabrication of which cost 16,000 ducats. There is also a chalice in gold enamel, which weighs seven marks six ounces, and was presented by a bishop of former time, don Ramire de Haro; there is besides these a quantity of relics enriched with precious ornaments.

The convent of the Carmelites. The church contains several good pictures.

The convent for the nuns of San Lorenzo-Justiniano, in which are deposited some pretty good paintings.

The gates to the churches of St. Dominico, St. Andrew, &c. are also deserving of notice, as is the church which belongs to the Jesuits, within whose site is founded the monk's hospital of Mercy; an asylum is here offered to the poor and destitute, the indigent receive benefactions, and the friendless obtain protection and occupation; the archdeacon, don Palafox, may from his zeal and beneficence be regarded as the author of this noble fabric of Christian charity, which to the honour of the Spanish nation, is no solitary monument of humanity, but has allies and competitors in many sister establishments.

There are several other churches in the town and the suburbs, which are in general tolerably handsome and spacious.

The bridge of San Pablo, thrown over the Huecar, is not only substantial but magnificent; it is raised on five arches; at its two extremities it is supported on the hills, its central piers resemble towers, and rise from the channel through which the river flows to one hundred and fifty feet; the length of the bridge is about three hundred and ninety feet; it is calculated that the piers alone cost 83,000 ducats; it was the object of its founder, the canon John del Pozo, to establish for public use a passage to a monastery of St. Dominico placed on the opposite shore.

Manufactures.

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Manufactures. In the seventeenth century Cuenca was a place of considerable commercial importance; the process of washing and preparing wool for the loom was performed here with as much celerity as success; it was calculated that more than two hundred thousand weight of wool was here dressed for foreign exportation, and that an equal quantity was prepared for home consumption. At present this quantity is reduced to two hundred thousand weight, little of which is employed in manufactures. The adjacent country is populous in bees, and affords ample supplies of wax and honey.

Cuenca is the country of the famous Louis Molina, of the order of the Jesuits; of cardinal Gil Alvarez Carillo Albornoz, founder of the Spanish College at Bologna; of the celebrated chief Mendoza, and of some poets, among others Cortez, Figueras, and Villa Viciosa.

Previously to entering on the route from Cuenca to Requegna, it will be proper to mention the Sierra de Cuenca, which forms the prominent object in the present landscape. This mountain, well known as the most elevated part of Spain, was under the Romans distinguished by the appellation of Montes Orospedani. It is situated to the east of New Castile, to the west of the kingdom of Valencia, and borders on ancient Celtiberia.

The natives of the Sierra possess great acuteness and address; they have strong local astachments and an invincible partiality to their own customs and usages, with a decided preference for pastoral habits and occupations. To this predilection they are probably led by the nature of the country, which produces the most excellent pastures, and affords ample subsistence to their numerous flocks. They derive considerable profit from the sheep-shearing, by disposing of the prime fleeces at an advantageous price, and by various careful operations bestow on such as are of inferior beauty all the value of which they are susceptible; the women wash, spin, and card, the wool, with which they

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fabricate homely stuffs for the use of their own families. There are various manufactures of camelots which possess considerable value. With regard to climate, the temperature is as various as the face of the country; in some cantons the cold or heat is more or less durable or sensible, as reflected to them from the mountains in their immediate vicinity. The ground is sometimes sown with grain; hemp, saffron, pulse, fruits, and esculent vegetables, are collected in moderate quantities; wax and honey are found in abundance; wild fowl is sometimes procured. The rivers are stocked with good fish, and the mountains afford some species of game.

Not far from Cuenca we have to cross a small stream called las Moscas, or the Flies, a name from which the Spaniards take occasion to indulge a disposition to pleasantry, by observing, that, among other remarkable things in their country, there is a bridge for flies. The Moscas rises in a plain three leagues distant, contiguous to the city of Fuentes. On proceeding to Arcas, where there are few inhabitants, we discover a small stream of salt water, precipitated by the Moscas into the Xucar, or the Jucar. On our route we leave to the left the village of Melgosa; and to the right, that of Tortolas. Having advanced part of the way through rows of firs, we arrive at Valera the lower. This city contains two hundred inhabitants. In the mansion of the duke of Granada, who is lord of it, you discover several antique sepulchral stones, with various inscriptions. In the streets, also, there are

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are found the fragments of capitals which present some vestiges of its former grandeur. From thence, taking a steep ascent, we direct our course to another Valera, called the Upper. Constantly pursuing the same track, we still advance for a league between two lofty hills.

Valera the Upper is, as its name imports, situated on an eminence; it has more inhabitants than the other, and is dignified by a seignorial castle. The front of the parochial church is beautiful; it is composed of columns of the Ionic order. The interior discovers a fine nave of ample extent, the architecture of which is gothic, which harmonizes happily with the solemn character of a religious edifice. On the confines of the city are some gardens; from thence the road widens into a beautiful fertile plain, which produces wheat and other grains, and is also sprinkled with plantations of saffron. From hence to Bonaco we pass for two leagues over a more open country, and from this spot may trace the origin of the wide plains of la Mancha. To the right you perceive the villages of Al-Badejo, Valverde, and Ontecillas; to the left those of Pigneras, Solera, Barchin, and Al-Modavar-del-Pinar.

Bonaco de Alarcon is situated in a pleasant extensive plain, where you find olive trees, vines, and some gardens, and where saffron also is collected. This little town has five hundred inha-

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bitants; the houses are tolerably well built; a number of linden trees appear in its vicinity. The next place we reach is the village of Olmedilla, situated on the road from Madrid to Valencia, and halfway on the royal route leading to those two capitals.

Alarcon, a town consisting of two hundred inhabitants, stands on a rock almost wholly invested by the Jucar, which, by a deep indentation, separates it from the country it commands. This river begins to divide it on that point most inclined to the east. It then returns in a kind of ellipse, having no other communication with the country than by a narrow pass. The natural strength of this position was assiduously improved by art; the approach to the city was by a neck of land which lay between two precipices, secured by walls, and three fortified gates, with which a communication was made by bridges previously to gaining access to the town. There still remains, at the entrance of the town, a lofty tower. Another turret still appears before the isthmus already described. Within the limits of the town, also, there yet exists a castle substantially built on the rocks, the residence of the Alcade mayor. The population of this place, to judge from the vestiges of its ancient walls, could not have been less than two thousand inhabitants; a conclusion that is also warranted by its five parishes. The church

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church of Santa Maria has a beautiful front erected under Charles the Fifth. The front of St. John's church is also tolerably handsome, and of the Doric order. There is much to commend in the splendid altar of the parochial church of St. Domingo de Silos. Exclusively of these edifices, which have hitherto resisted the approaches of time, you meet only with ruinous walls, and houses mouldering in decay. It cannot be doubted, that, in earlier periods of history, Alarcon was a military station of great strength and importance; its situation is highly picturesque; its primitive name is unknown; but in the reign of Alphonso the Eighth, when it was last wrested from the Moors, the surname of Alarcon was conferred on Ferdinand-Martinez Cevallos, by whose courage and address this signal act of valour was achieved, and has from him been transmitted to his descendants.

On leaving Alarcon, the traveller has to proceed for three leagues over a tract of land partially cultivated, and to climb a mountain planted with oaks and firs, yielding a profusion of rosemary, and well stored with game. On the left we discover the villages of Valhermoso and Rubielos Altos; and on the right Rubielos Baxos. Half way from Alarcon he discovers an immense plain, whose wide and smooth expanse presents the image of a calm unruffled

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sea; he has no sooner measured his course over it than he arrives at Villa Nueva.

Villa Nueva de Xara stands on the margin of a small sequestered stream; it is one of those towns bordering on la Mancha, in which the houses are most neatly built; the streets describe right lines, and are straight and good. Its vicinity is announced by numerous plantations of vines and olives, inclosed within green hedges, which enliven its aspect. The piazza to the town-house is a fine piece of architecture of the Doric order. On the foundation is raised a row of columns which form the ground-floor of the piazza. Above them is superstructed another row of correspondent columns supporting a gallery. Among its sacred edifices we may distinguish the front of the parochial church, which is embellished with four columns of the Ionic order. The interior presents a beautiful nave; the sacristry contains two pictures from the pencil of Villa. A monastery of Carmelites was founded here by St. Theresa, which is inaccessible to strangers. The church is well built. In the convent of St. Francis, which is a plain unembellished edifice, there is nothing to deserve notice. The territory of this town is highly susceptible of culture, particularly in those spots to which the vicinity of the rivulet offers facilities for irrigation. We discover here a great variety of trees;

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trees; the produce of the soil consists of wheat, barley, a small quantity of pulse, oil, and wine: the last article affords a profit of 50,000 arobas.

From Villa Nueva we proceed to Iniesta, leaving to the left the villages of Motilla, Peral, and, far distant, Campillo de Alto Buey. To the right you discover the castle of Chinchilla, and the rocks of St. Pedro. Iniesta is a town supposed to contain a thousand inhabitants; the parochial church has three aisles, and is extremely spacious; the front presents a regular series of architecture, and is handsomely embellished with pilasters of the Doric order. Between Iniesta and Minglanilla we have a view of the seignory, or more correctly, according to the Spanish idiom, the state of Jorquera, composed of several scattered villages. To the left appears the village of Graja Minglanilla, whose population amounts to two hundred inhabitants; it is remarkable for the salt-pits in its vicinity; these are inclosed within spacious caverns, where, after a descent of two hundred feet, you enter a vast circular space, presenting the appearance of a vaulted arch, whose walls and roof are filled with gems, and hung with chrystal mirrors, which by the glimmering torches carried through this dreary subterraneous region, reflect a dazzling and almost insufferable light. These are the true salt-mines, from whence the crown of Spain derives a consi

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derable revenue. In the environs of this celebrated spot the soil is little favourable to vegetation. There are few trees, but game is abundant. The ridge of mountains which forms the demarcation between the kingdoms of Murcia and Valencia, and Old Castile, is already distinctly visible.

Villagardo is a small village; two leagues on this side of it we pass the river Cabriel, which is there a considerable stream, and invested on either side by two steep banks, not easily accessible. Contiguous to the river is an isolated house, well known as the Venta de Contreras. At the distance of a day's journey, in a southern direction from this spot, the Cabriel unites with the river Jucar, encircling the village of Coflentes, which has probably derived this appropriate name from the word Confluentes. From Villagardo to Requegna is a distance of five leagues, over a country covered with underwood, intermixed with oaks and firs, and here and there a few patches of grain. From hence we have to cross a wide plain, a richly cultivated, and smiling country, pleasingly enlivened by rural habitations, and fertilized by a small river, which is sometimes known by the name of Oliana, but more generally by that of Caudeta, in reference to the village where it rises, and which is three leagues from Requegna. The Oliana unites, not far from its source, with the waters of the Alguira, its

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its whole course, including all its deviations and sinuosities, is not more than eleven leagues; after which it is completely lost in the Cabriel.

Requegna, already mentioned, is the chief place of a territory called Tierra del Requegna; it is a fortified town, situated on the frontier of the kingdom of Valencia, contiguous to the banks of the river Magro, which takes its source at Pico el Rejo. Its streets are straight, and extend in regular lines. The houses are well built, and, in addition to a handsome square, it has the embellishment of fountains. It is a populous place, having not less than six thousand inhabitants. The Oliana flows near its walls. It is defended by a good castle, which in 1706 was taken by the English in the name of the Archduke Charles; and in 1707 retaken by the French on the part of Philip the Fifth. The Tierra de Requegna, sheltered on the north and east, lies between the Cabriel and the Guadalaviar, and is extremely fertile. It is intersected and irrigated by various streams or rivulets. To the west flows the Ranera from Pico Ranero, and receives several springs before it falls into the Magro. To the north east, the Magro, which runs into Valencia to Siete Agnas, and mingles with the Xucar, below the Isle of Alzira, six miles from Valencia. The country abounds in grain, wine, saffron, fruits, pulse, and

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and game. There are innumerable goats, whose milk is in high estimation. The lands are well cultivated, and various branches of manufacture are carried on with success; and the inhabitants, thus enriched by diligence and activity, appear easy and contented. They possess great frankness and gaiety in their dispositions, and are passionately addicted to singing and dancing.

Itinerary from Madrid to the Frontiers of Estremadura, Twenty-seven Leagues. *

Madrid.	
Manzanarez, village and bridge called Segovia.	
Alcorcon, village	2 leagues.
Mostoles, village	1
Arroyo Molinos, village	1
Guadarrama, river and wooden bridge	1
Alamo, village	1
Casarubios, town	1
Ventas de Retamoso	1
Venta del Gallo	1
Novez, town	2
Venta of Domingo Perez	1½
Santa Olalla, town	¼
Le Bravo, village	2
Alberche, river and wooden bridge	3
Talvera de la Reyna, town	1
Venta Peralvanegas	4
Torralva, village	2
Calzada del Oropesa	2

* Route from Madrid to Portugal by the Estremadura.

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In taking this route, we must leave Madrid by the gate of Segovia, and proceed by an admirable road, constructed in the manner of a causeway to the river Manzanarez, over which is raised a handsome bridge of nine arches, constructed in the reign of Philip the Second from the plans of John of Herrera. It is not unusual for travellers, on beholding this superb bridge, to express their surprise on discovering no river, as there frequently is not a drop of water in the channel of the Manzanarez; and it has sometimes been said, that the bridge should not have been built till the artist had created the river. There are, however, some seasons in which this bridge, far from being expletive, is scarcely commensurate with the volume of water which rolls underneath. A toll has been established on its limits: ten pence is exacted for a chariot, and double that sum for a coach.

From this spot the road is no longer factitious, but simply such as it has been formed by nature. It is, however, still smooth and good, though occasionally intersected by ravines. We enter a wide plain, apparently of illimitable extent, where the eye looks in vain for a single tree. Two leagues from thence we arrive at Alcorcon, formerly a town, at present an insignificant village, with two hundred and fifty inhabitants. The houses, or rather sheds, are merely

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merely raised of such earth as is used in the potteries.

After traversing for an hour a waste uncultivated country, we reach Mostoles, a village with four hundred inhabitants, who have no better abode than mud walls; yet its parochial church contains a fine picture of Veronica, by Dominico Greco. The principal altar is adorned with four columns of the Corinthian order, and with two statues of St. Antony and St. Francis; it contains a large and beautiful picture of the Blessed Virgin, and three other paintings equally good, one of the Trinity, an Annunciation, and a Presentation: they are all by Francis Ricci.

We advance another league to the village of Arroyo Molinos, near which is a plantation of trees that screen the banks of a considerable stream. A league beyond this place you have to cross the river Guadarrama on an arched wooden bridge. On the left a forest of oaks extends to a considerable distance. You perceive on the right the village of Moralexa, and opposite to it Carranche, Palomequo, Viso, and Lomincha. In the interval of an hour we pass the village of Alamo, in whose vicinity appears the vine and the olive. The route is pursued another hour, till we reach Casarrubios, having left to the right Navalcarnero and Valmojado.

Casarrubios is a small town, formerly flourishing and populous, but at present reduced to about

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about five hundred inhabitants. The houses are sufficiently distinguished from those in its vicinity to attest its ancient dignity and importance. It had once a castle, planted on an eminence, and commanding the adjacent country, but it is now in ruins. There remain of it but one square, with a small fort at each of the angles, a place of arms, and a fosse filled with rubbish; it is easy to discover that it was a solid substantial fabric; the walls were constructed of brick, and were nearly eight feet in depth: there are two churches, which, however, constitute but one parochial establishment, a convent for the monks of St. Augustine, and a nunnery for the religious sisters of St. Bernard. The architecture of both these churches is plain and good; there are also some fine paintings of Anthony Pizzaro. This city gave birth to the astronomer Alvarez de Pina y Roxas, and to Francis Nunez de Orio, who was at once a poet and a physician, and transmitted his name to posterity by his verse, and his prescriptions.

At the distance of a league, we approach las Ventas de Retamosa, and a league beyond it reach the Venta del Gallo; it stands on the verge of a forest of oaks, which belongs to the town of Camarena, a league distant. We here begin to discover vines and olives, but thinly scattered over a rude uncultivated district. We leave at some distance the

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the villages of Portillo and Fuen-Salida; the latter was the native place of the theologian Andrew de Losa, who flourished towards the middle of the sixteenth century. In two hours we arrive at Novez from the Venta del Gallo; Novez is a small town, with about eight hundred inhabitants; it has a large parochial church, with three aisles; and is embellished with fountains. A curious tradition prevails respecting the origin of this place, which, on we know not what authority, is by some antiquaries supposed to have been founded by the Hebrews.

We have no sooner quitted Novez than we perceive, at a short distance, the villages of Santa Domingo and Alcabon on the right, with the little town of Maqueda on the left. In the short space of an hour and a quarter we reach the Venta of Domingo Perez, where commences a considerable plantation of olives, which extends half a league, and is supposed to contain a hundred thousand feet of olive trees; but however extensive it may be, it is too little the object of care and culture to afford any indications of a flourishing condition. Soon after emerging from this enclosure, we reach Santa Olalla, a small town, whose population once amounted to three thousand inhabitants, but is now reduced to three hundred persons; it is situated in a rich loamy soil, abundantly irrigated; it has two parochial churches, and a Franciscan

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Franciscan monastery. From the ruins of its suburbs, its walls, its castle, and the number of its houses, it is easy to discover that it must once have been a place of considerable importance and extent. It was the country of the historian Alvarez Gomez de Castro, and of the preacher Christopher de Fonseca, who were both coeval with the middle of the sixteenth century.

On leaving Santa Olalla we pass, at intervals, through various plantations of vines and olives. In the short space of an hour we traverse a rich valley, which being copiously watered by a stream, is deliciously cool and refreshing in summer, but disagreeable and even dangerous after a rainy season. Its situation is highly favourable to plantations; but so little advantage is derived from this circumstance, that it is almost without a single tree. We have scarcely receded from it, than we perceive on the left the village of Carmena, and on the right the village of Techada. We soon reach Bravo, another village, whose single street is straight, even, and regular, and of considerable length; the houses have also an air of neatness; the posada is not contemptible, and has the rare and precious recommendation of not being totally destitute of provisions.

From hence we pursue a track of immense extent, a rude, desolate waste, neither ploughed nor

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planted, though nothing could be more easy than to render a part of it susceptible of culture, and the waters of the Tagus present the most obvious and advantageous means of irrigation. To the left you leave the villages of Lucillos and Monte-Aragon, with the humble little town of Cebolla; to the right the villages of Bruzel and Cazalegas; here the ground becomes more irregular, presents neither verdure nor vegetation, but is covered with shrubs, particularly with broom, which supplies the flocks with scanty pasturage. At the distance of three leagues from Bravo we reach the banks of the river Alberquo, which almost close to this spot discharges itself into the Tagus; its bed is here capacious, it frequently overflows its banks, and inundates the country on the opposite side. There was formerly a stone bridge thrown over it, but being swept away by the floods five and twenty or thirty years ago, it became an object of some importance to re-construct it; for this useful purpose a contribution was three times levied on all the towns and villages for ten miles of the district; a large quantity of wood was felled and transported, fully adequate to the useful undertaking, but at this era all activity ceased, all enterprize was suspended; the wood thus collected was suffered to remain on the banks of the Tagus, rotting, till it perished, whilst the erection of the bridge, so far from being

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being advanced, is to this day unattempted. In the mean time a temporary wooden bridge has been thrown across the river, consisting of twenty arcades, five hundred feet in length, and twelve in breadth. For this necessary accommodation a toll is established, of two reals, or five pence for a chariot, and twice that sum for a coach.

We have no sooner passed the bridge, than the country assumes a totally new and varied aspect, and a large beautiful open plain is presented to the view; it is terminated on both sides by mountains, which almost unite at the left, but are higher and recede from each other on the right; it is environed by the Tagus, whose waters bathe the feet of the mountains. The country is well cultivated and fertile, and gradually cloathed with olive trees, which constantly become more dense and numerous. In In the progress of half a league you approach whole forests of these useful trees; here also it would be easy to render the country more fertile, by means of irrigation from the Tagus and the Alberquo, whose waters now merely contribute to its beauty, without facilitating the labours, or augmenting the comforts of its inhabitants.

In passing over this plain, by a road which, though handsome and regular, broad and tolerably straight, is dirty and neglected, we dis-

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discover Talavera de la Reyna. This city most happily presents itself in perspective; at first it is but partially unfolded to the view, and it is but slowly developed in its whole extent. You distinguish large masses of building, formed by the domes of churches, which, clustering together with spires and steeples, assume the appearance of as many pyramids, and create an advantageous idea of the extent and splendour of the town. You advance through a superb avenue of trees, and having passed the chapel of our Lady of Prado, wind round a beautiful promenade, of which this shady avenue forms a pleasing part. From thence, at the distance of a mile from the river Aberquo, you enter the city of

TALAVERA DE LA REYNA.

Talavera is a place of great antiquity; it existed under the Romans, many monuments of whom are still extant. Various have been the conjectures respecting its name in remote times; it has been indiscriminately called Ibora and Ebura; by some it has been supposed to be the famous Evora of the Romans, whilst others more plausibly place this city in Portugal. There is yet another division of opinion on this subject, originating in the presumption, that the ancient

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ancient Talabrica was no other than the old Talavera.

Whatever might be its origin, it has participated in the common destiny of Spain; it was transferred from the dominion of the Romans to the Goths, but fell under the Moorish yoke in 714, and was tributary to the caliphs of Damascus; it afterwards formed part of the kingdom of Cordova, but in 914 was besieged by Orduno, king of Leon, who finally carried it by storm, abandoned it to plunder, and left it almost reduced to ashes: in a short time it was retaken by the Moors, and annexed to the kingdom of Toledo. It remained dependent on that city till 1085, when Alphonso the Sixth, called the Brave, having conquered Toledo, turned his victorious arms against Talavera, and the city being soon reduced to capitulate, was reunited to the crown of Castile at the commencement of the following century. This devoted town was revisited by the calamities of war, and again subjected to violence, pillage, and desolation. Hali, a Moorish prince, the king of Cordova, after a long and fruitless siege of Toledo, suddenly directed his attack against Talavera, and having obtained possession of the place by storm, gave it up to plunder, and razed its walls to the ground; in the process of time, however, it was rebuilt, and converted into an appenage of the queens of Spain; it was finally relinquished

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by Joanna, the wife of Henry the Second, in favour of an archbishop of Toledo (by whose successors it is still possessed), who gave to that princess in exchange the city of Alcaraz, in la Mancha.

There yet remain some vestiges of the ramparts, which are by some supposed to be no less ancient than the Romans; their ruins are discovered from the shores of the Tagus, and in all probability the fortifications have suffered less from the encroachments of time, than the daring and sacrilegious rapacity which has destroyed the building, in order to appropriate the materials to use. About twenty-five or thirty years ago, a private individual collected from a fragment of the ramparts a pile of stones, to be employed in the erection of his dwelling-house; this example of cupidity, instead of being reprobated, was eagerly imitated, and his neighbours, to prove that they were not inferior to him in sagacity, industriously attacked the dismantled walls, and soon reduced to an insignificant heap of stones all those stately fragments of majesty and strength, which had so long been preserved in Talavera, as venerable monuments to illustrate its eventful history. The writer of this work has examined several of these stones, which, from their mass, their volume, and their regularity, appear worthy of attention; several of them were distinguished by inscriptions; similar

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milar stones have been discovered in some houses, particularly in the old convent of the lesser Augustins, and in the house of Don Manuel Duque, where they are used as steps to the staircase: two of them are in the court of the same house, which, to judge by their colour, have never been appropriated to any use; the vestiges of inscriptions, and a sort of hieroglyphic characters, are still distinctly visible.

The fragments of this wall extend along the right bank of the Tagus; several have been discovered on a little eminence, at some distance from the river, whilst others rise from its bed; the former are constructed of large pieces of freestone, are square, and flanked with towers; the latter also are square, and of the same configuration; one of these towers, which forms an angle of that part in which was the alcazar, or the king's palace, is almost entire, and presents a majestic form; it was covered with inscriptions; it is still easy to discover the chasms that have been made by the removal of the stones, which were formerly connected with one another.

Notwithstanding these indications of remote antiquity, it will not be easy to ascertain the precise era at which these walls and towers were erected; one of those turrets, which are situated on the banks of the river, at a small distance from St. Clement's Church, at the south-west extremity of the city, has been been materially

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injured by the stones detached from the general fabric; in consequence of this premature decay, it separated from the upper part of the structure, and disclosed something like an incrustation of freestone, inserted in a more ancient tower, constructed also of freestone, but evidently distinct from the original edifice; on attentive observation it is apparent that the tower was originally round, but that afterwards, by a new layer of stones, it was rendered square. The first question connected with this circumstance is, whether the original tower was erected by the Romans? was the additional masonry the work of those people, of the Moors, or subsequently to them, of the kings of Castile? From the Roman inscriptions still visible on the towers and wall, it should at first seem apparent that they were erected by the Romans; but it should be recollected, that these inscriptions have been found in other parts of the city, and that the stones with which they are connected might easily be conceived to have constituted a part of some other edifice, such as a temple, or public baths, and to have been used as materials in the erection of their towers, after the destruction of the walls in which they had originally been employed; it must also be obvious, that the Romans had no motive to fortify a town in which no enemy was to be expected, a town placed in the recesses of the country, in the very

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very heart of Spain, inaccessible to invasion, and remote from the frontiers. The Moors, on the contrary, and after them the kings of Castile and Leon, were compelled to invest it with turrets and ramparts, to secure it from the rapacious incursions to which it was constantly exposed, during a long and calamitous period of three ages.

Extent, Division. It has not been ascertained what were the limits of this town under the Romans, or whether they were such as existed during its subjection to the Moors. The outline of the Moorish city still subsists, and its precincts may therefore be clearly traced: it commences at the end of the little wood which separates the Tagus from the promenade of the Prado, verging on the banks of that river, at the south-east extremity of the city, where it forms an obtuse angle; it is composed of a wall, irregularly formed of stones and lime, supported by round turrets, similarly constructed, small, and contiguous to each other. The town extends the length of the river; a hundred and fifty steps farther it reunites with the wall already described, which is also raised along the Tagus. The wall diverges from the river behind St. Clement's church, and advancing towards the country, suddenly takes a direction towards St. Clement's gate, commonly called the gate of Merida; it then follows in a straight line the Benedictine convent, inclines towards St. Saviour's church, then runs parallel with the terrace of the religious house formerly belonging to the Jesuits, proceeds behind the houses of the streets Correderia, the arch of St. Peter, and finally takes a direction to the river, to the spot whence it originated.

This enclosure is a long narrow parallelogram, the extreme points of which are slightly rounded. It is small, and forms not

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not a fourth part of the actual extent of the city. Two of its gates, called St. Clement and St. Peteriarch, still subsist; the vestiges of a third are still discernible; it was but lately destroyed in the street Correderia, at the entrance of a street leading to the collegiate place, opposite the terrace of the Jesuit's house. This gate formerly enclosed an alcazar, or palace, the residence of the Moorish kings, some vestiges of which are yet visible. It stood on that part of the wall commanding the Tagus, on the very spot that was once the site of the Augustine convent; some subterraneous remains are still extant.

The enclosure was supported by a particular kind of fortification, which still exists; it consists of turrets, separated one from the other, between thirty and forty feet in length, and more than six feet in depth; they are of the height of the other walls, but terminated by a terrace, and protected by battlements, with a lofty gate, nine feet in diameter; behind them are the original walls, in a transversal form; they are so placed, that their gates mutually correspond, and thus you may make the circuit of the town, in passing from one gate to another.

The limits of this town were gradually enlarged under the kings of Castile; it acquired a more considerable extent, a new enclosure was formed, which still subsists, and which comprehends all the northern, and a portion of the western part; it now extends in the form of a large semicircle, from the eastern angle of the Moorish enclosure on the banks of the river, and connects itself with it towards the western point, at St. Clement's gate. You may yet discern the walls, flanked with towers, which are now mouldering into decay; in this enclosure, thus united to that of the Moorish town, is comprised the present city of Talavera.

A suburb was gradually formed in a western direction from the town, in which is the parish of St. Andrew, on the road leading from Estremadura and Portugal. To this suburb

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burb was attached a gate, which has been rendered memorable by a flagitious act of cruelty committed in 1289, at the instigation of Sancho the Brave. On that very spot were exposed to view the dissected limbs of four hundred nobles of Talavera, on whom death was inflicted for their steady adherence to the cause of the unfortunate family of La Cerda, against the usurpation of the successful monarch; this atrocious violence is yet commemorated in the name of Puerta de Quartos, or Gate of Quarters.

The town has been considerably enlarged during the present century; its suburbs are now of greater importance and extend from the eastern to the western borders of the Tagus, thus forming a semicircular area, which circumscribes the limits of the town to the east, south, and west; they thus present to view a new town, of a more open and agreeable aspect; it is extremely populous, and the two noblest streets in Talavera are in this district; these are St. Andrew, leading to the gate of Quartos, and the road to Portugal, and Olivares, which is of very modern construction.

The demands of an augmented population have naturally produced the nesessity of many supplementalparishes, for the accommodation of the new inhabitants; and religious orders, monasteries, and nunneries, have consequently been multiplied in the various districts. In the first, or Moorish quarter of the town, is a collegiate church, with two other parishes, two monasteries, and two nunneries; the second quarter, which is far more considerable, contains four parochial churches, two monasteries, and three nunneries; in the suburbs there is one parish, with four monasteries; formerly there was also a convent, belonging to the order of St. Antony, which in 1791 was suppressed.

Situation. Talavera is delightfully situated in a beautiful open plain, at once wide, cultivated, and fertile; it commands the right bank of the Tagus, which bathes its walls, and is blest with a delicious climate. It is invested with nine

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nine gates, exclusive of the quarters, which belongs to the suburbs.

Squares, Streets. Talavera is very irregularly built. The streets are narrow and frequently crooked, and are often interrupted by little courts, so ill paved that in rainy seasons the water fills the chasms and apertures, and presents the disgusting object of muddy stagnant pools. The houses are all extremely low, they are raised but one story, and have few windows. There is, properly speaking, but one square, which fronts the town-house and the collegiate church; it is large and beautiful, rather long in proportion to its breadth, and embellished with the finest houses in Talavera.

Bridge. Over the Tagus is raised St. Catherine's bridge, situated behind the convent of the Jeronimites; it was erected in 1400, at the expence of cardinal Peter de Mendoza, archbishop of Toledo; originally it was well built, and of free-stone, but from scandalous neglect has been suffered to decay; several arches have already fallen, and wooden arches supply their place; there are other arches which equally discover symptoms of decline, and can only be saved by caution and care from speedy destruction. St. Catherine's bridge is not straight; it forms, almost at one-third of its extent, a sharp angle, which throws it far back on the right bank of the river. It is divided into thirty-five arcades, and is twelve hundred feet in length.

Clergy. This town has a collegiate chapter, eight parochial churches, (one of which is collegiate) nine monasteries, five nunneries, and a chapel very highly celebrated by the title of the Holy Virgin of Prado. It is the residence of a vicar-general of the archbishop of Toledo, for the administration of ecclesiastical justice; it has an episcopal court for the diocese, composed of a vicar-general, a fiscal, an an alguasil-mayor, and a register.

The collegiate chapter was founded in 1211, by don Rodrigo Ximenes, archbishop of Toledo, and with this stipulated

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stipulated condition, that it should observe an annual pay-payment of five maravedis to the see of Toledo, in sign of fidelity and subjection. There are four dignitaries attached to the chapter, of whom the dean, who is always the senior canon, takes precedence, seven canons, eight prebends, and six chaplains; there is a chapel for ten musicians and twelve juvenile choristers. Among the dignitaries is an archdeacon, who resides at Toledo, with the ample revenue of sixteen thousand ducats; the dean, on the contrary, has an income not much more considerable than the canons, who have two thousand ducats each; the prebends have a stipend of five hundred ducats, the chaplains two hundred ducats. The clerical habit appropriated to the canons and prebends consists of a large mantle and black camail, which is thrown over the surplice; neither of these, however, is worn out of church, except in processions, when they exhibit the surplice.

The parochial clergy consist merely of a curate, with one or two vicars with the title of lieutenants. In the chapel of Prado there are three chaplains, one of whom has the title of chaplain-major, with an income of three hundred ducats; the others have a stipend of two hundred ducats each.

Administration Civil and Military. Talavera has an alcademayor for the administration of justice, who is dependent on the archbishop of Toledo, and whose decisions are amenable to the chancery of Valladolid; there is also an alguasil mayor, and a custom-house for the regulation of commercial duties; there is a commission for snuff and salt; for the superintendance of other branches of revenue there is a warder of woods and forests; a superintendant of the royal farms; for the protection of the community there is a holy brotherhood; a captain-commander, whose business it is to investigate and determine on cases of contraband; many institutions exist for public and private instruction; there is an economical society, whose members seldom meet; there

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there are schools for latin grammar, schools of philosophy and theology in the convents of the Dominicians and Corderliers. The municipal body of Talavera is composed of twelve hereditary regidors; of three sworn nobles; of three sworn members of the states-general, elected annually; of a comptroller-general, elected also annually; of an alguazil; and of a lieutenant subordinate to him in authority.

Hospitals. In Talavera there are four hospitals, that of St. Lazarus, (originally destined for venereal patients) which is now generally in decay; that of Charity, or St. John of God, in which six beds are prepared for the reception of men; that of La Caridad, open to both sexes, in which the number of beds amounts from six to ten; that of Mercy, which is also appropriated to both sexes, and has fourteen beds, twelve for the sick and two for convalescents. It is proper to observe that the hospital of Mercy is maintained at the expence of the collegiate chapter.

Edifices. There are some structures in Talavera not unworthy of particular attention.

The church of the Carmelite nuns has two small altars, on which are two excellent paintings, one is a representation of Jesus Christ dead, resigned to the arms of the Eternal Father, the other is a Holy Theresa, in the style of J. B. Maino.

The principal altar of the church of the Franciscan Pilgrims is adorned with a portrait of St. Anne giving a lesson to the Blessed Virgin; this piece is attributed to John of Toledo.

The Dominican church has one aisle, instead of three, as has been affirmed by M. de Pons; it is a noble lofty symmetrical structure, and may be considered as a happy specimen of the modern Gothic; the door of this church opens in the centre, in front of the principal altar, but its grandeur is considerably impaired, by a reduction which has been injudiciously made in its length, in order to construct a vestibule

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tibule at the entrance of the convent; at present it is approached by an entrance at either side. The chancel contains three monuments, one is that of cardinal Garcias de Loaisa, a native of Talavera, a grand inquisitor, president of the council of the Indies, archbishop of Seville, and what perhaps, to some, might recommend him more eloquently than these numerous august titles, the founder of the convent. This distinguished personage died in 1546; on the tomb is placed a marble statue of the cardinal in pontifical robes, he appears recumbent, and the epitaph is exhibited at his feet; the execution of this monument is truly beautiful, it is only to be regretted that some ornamental sculpture had not been introduced to the niche in which it is placed. The other monuments are those of Loaisa and Catherine de Mendoza, the parents of the cardinal, each of whom is represented by a statue of white marble in a recumbent posture.

The church of the Augustin Pilgrims has a handsome façade happily presented to view; before it appears an elevated terrace, open at both sides, paved with large flags of free-stone; it is approached by a double staircase, protected by iron balustrades; the front is embellished by a gate, adorned with two columns of free-stone, and surmounted by a large picture of white marble in relief, representing St. Ildefonso, who receives the chasuble from the hands of the Blessed Virgin; the columns project too much not to injure the beauty of this piece, which being attached to the wall is retired from view.

The church, which has one aisle, is large, lofty, and well lighted, and has four chapels on either side; at the first glance it is strikingly impressive, but when attentively examined discovers many errors offensive to correct taste; the chapels are too low, each of the arches of which they are formed is surmounted by a small window, with the appendage of a small balcony, which produces a ridiculous effect; the choir,

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choir, which is placed below the entrance-door, protrudes somewhat in the shape of a horseshoe half through the church, a position as injurious to elegance as magnificence; to the pilasters there is neither base nor pedestal, their capitals are encumbered with ornaments, the cornice is also too much ornamented and extremely broad, it projects too much, and extends too far behind the altar; the arches of the roof do not rise on pilasters, but are apparently thrown back far beyond the nave; the transcepts are amply spacious and terminated by a handsome dome, from whence is suspended a lamp that exhibits no contemptible taste; but it is loaded with massive ornaments. This church contains not a single altar which does not appear ridiculous from the fantastic singularity of its architecture, the complexity of its ornaments, or the extravagance of its paintings. In a large chapel contiguous to it there is a picture of considerable merit, which represents Christ dead, Mary Magdalen kissing his feet, and the Blessed Virgin gazing at him with an exquisite expression of tenderness and grief.

The church of the Jeronimites presents neither front nor gate, the entrance is upon either side by doors which are both small and mean, but by a perverseness, of which it is difficult to conceive the motives, all the decorations suitable to the gate have been lavished with inconsiderate profusion on the chancel, which presents two large bodies of architecture, formed of pilasters, which are Doric in the first and Ionic in the second, and sustain an attic crowned by a balustrade; these embellishments are obviously misplaced, and whatever merit they might be allowed to possess is completely obscured by the extraneous masonry, which, under the idea of lending support to the edifice, has completely disfigured the decorations. These masses of wood have the most vulgar and ungracious aspect; their dimensions are enormous, and exhibit the most ridiculous contrast to the ornaments

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ornaments which are with difficulty discernible in such an outwork of coarse elaborate materials.

The church appears to have been constructed at two distinct eras; the chancel is in a style totally different from the nave, which is large and spacious, and with breadth proportioned to its height, but it appears too short, and this defect is exaggerated by the position of the two choirs, which are placed at the lower end of the church, one before the other, and project into the third part of the nave; the lower choir actually diminishes the length of the nave, and the upper choir completely obscures it from view. The architecture might extort commendation, if it were not wretchedly disfigured by a sorry gallery, which on either side extends from the choir to the chancel, and causes a considerable projection, To crown the whole of this gallimatias in architecture, the gallery is supported on arcades, which intersect the opening of the chapels at two thirds of their height; by these means the chapels have been rendered so low, that while one arch appears parallel with the roof, another is observed at a certain elevation wholly isolated, and the spectator is unable to discover whence it originates, or on what base it rests; there are no transepts; to compensate for this deficiency the chancel is of such excessive amplitude that it might be mistaken for another church; it is however a good specimen of architecture; it is composed of two bodies which rest on pilasters; the first body is of the Doric, the second of the Ionic order, the latter supports the arches of the roof, which are simply embellished by a ceiling. In the centre rises a dome, (so flattened as to be disagreeable to the eye,) that has little light, and is encumbered with massive ornaments; the four curvilinear triangles, from whence it originates, are filled with figures of the four Evangelists in bass-relief, ornamented by sorry paintings in fresco. Sufficient time was allowed to the architects and sculptors employed in this

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church to produce a finer edifice; the building commenced in 1549, and ended but in 1624!

Among other blunders committed in this undertaking we may observe the two choirs which have been placed in the chancel, although it is well known that this part of the church is held sacred from the people, and that it is only in the aisle that the laity are accustomed to receive the word of God.

Both the lower choir and the chancel are inclosed within an iron grate; the upper choir and the galleries are encircled with an iron balustrade, which is painted red, a colour particularly offensive to the eye.

The principal altar is of stucco, in imitation of marbles of different colours; in has two bodies of architecture, the first is extremely elevated; on each side are three Corinthian columns; two of them, in imitation of variegated red and white marble, are placed in front, with the statue of a saint between them; the third, which exhibits an imitation of white marble, is thrown back and almost concealed by the statue; these columns support on each side an angel of very indifferent execution; a large picture in half-relief, equal to the columns in height, occupies the middle, this is a St. Jerome, with several other figures, so excessively diminutive as to appear mean and contemptible; the second body is extremely small, when compared with the first; two of its pilasters are painted, and in the middle appears a small stuccoed picture in bass-relief.

In the chancel are two small altars of stucco also, but instead of being placed in the centre between the two sides, where there is an ample space, they are inserted in the angles which form the slope of the pilasters, where, from their extreme smallness, they produce all the disagreeable effects of disproportion and deformity.

In passing from the church to the sacristy, we may observe an octagonal compartment, tolerably handsome; besides which

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which is a magnificent staircase of free-stone, broad, and ornamented with a balustrade, which is perfectly isolated from the wall.

It should seem to have been the object of the architect to exercise his invention in order to disfigure this edifice, which in its present state is an immense repository of absurdity, extravagance, and caprice. It is vexatious to reflect, that on this heterogeneous pile an expence was lavished, more than adequate to the construction of a noble and regular fabric. With all the embellishments of taste and elegance in Talavera, however, and its whole district, it is regarded as a miracle of beauty and magnificence; and the high reputation it has long enjoyed, not only invites criticism, but provokes, and in some measure extorts censure.

The collegiate church has a front and a gate in the Gothic style, but is wholly destitute of ornaments; they are bordered on the right by a square tower, much more modern in its construction; it exhibits a good taste; a correspondent tower on the other side would not fail to embellish it.

The church is Gothic; it has three aisles, large and admirably arranged, separated on each side by four large pillars, which support the arches of the vault; these pillars are formed each by four small columns recumbent one on the other. The large aisle would be beautiful if it were not disfigured by four arches which run across it, and rest on the collateral pillars; its beauty is still more impaired by the choir, which is placed in the centre, and on three sides is so completely environed by walls that it has the appearance of a house constructed within a church.

No transept is discoverable. The choir and chancel are inclosed within a handsome iron rail with gilded ornaments; a correspondent balustrade adorns the five steps leading to the principal altar, which exhibits the modern style, and has two handsome pilasters of greyish blue marble, between

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which is placed a picture of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin, which displays considerable genius.

One of the collateral aisles has an altar dedicated to St. Ildefonso, in which is a handsome picture of that saint from the school of Blaise de Prado. There are in this aisle three mausoleums, two at the end next the chancel, the other in the chapel of St. Francis; of the monuments in the chancel, one is simply a large tomb carved with a profusion of Gothic ornaments; the other is also a tomb, invested with armorial decorations; a statue of white marble reclines on it, armed in the antique style, the head uncovered, the casque lying at the feet; at its side is a child who weeps; the last monument was erected to the memory of a canon of this church, his statue appears kneeling, covered with a mantle, an open volume lying on the ground, and a square bonnet placed before it; this statue is rendered valuable by the spirit of the design and the delicacy of the execution.

In the sacristy of the church is preserved a large picture of St. Joseph by Antony Palomino.

The church of the Holy Virgin of Prado is beyond the limits of the city, on the promenade from which it takes its name; it is remarkable for the devotion paid to the statue of the Virgin. The entrance to it is by a large piazza of seven arches, which are supported on piers of free-stone; it has three spacious aisles, divided from each other by large and handsome arches of free-stone, which rest on beautiful columns of the same stones; the transepts are equally large and handsome, embellished with pilasters and surmounted by a lofty dome, which is elegantly terminated by a cupola. The architecture, though plain and simple, is majestic; it would be rendered yet more beautiful by a continuation of the vaulted roof, which fills but one part of the large aisle.

Antiquities On entering this church you discover in a niche, inserted in the wall, a tomb of white stone, in the shape of a coffin, destitute of every ornament, seven feet in length,

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length, two feet six inches in breadth, and three feet nine inches in height; on a slab stone placed underneath are two inscriptions, one above the other, and only divided by a cross, which is engraven on the stone; the first appears in Roman characters, which are ill-made and uneven, and not in Gothic letters, as has been alledged by Mons. Pons; it runs thus:

LITORIVS FA
MVLVS DEI VI
XIT ANNOS PLVS
MINVS LXXV RE
QVIEVIT IN PACE DIE
VIIII KAL. JVLIAS
AERA DXXXXVIII.

The other, which is traced in characters common to the sixteenth century, simply informs us, that this tomb was discovered in 1513, in a plantation of olive trees, near the convent of the Mathurins; and it being presumed from the foregoing inscription that it inclosed the body of a Christian, was removed into the church.

The first inscription is obviously liable to some suspicions respecting its authenticity; Litorius is a Roman name, but in the sixth century the Goths were sole masters of Spain, who had, as is well known, their peculiar letters, and no longer employed Roman characters; it is also to be remarked that the characters discovered in this inscription are ill made, uneven, and irregular; they evidently bear the impression of the sixth century, and yet appear to have been traced by the same hand that produced the second inscription. It is difficult to account for so large a stone having been selected for so short an inscription; it should seem to have been the consequence of some sagacious presage that the blank space would soon be filled by another series of characters.

According to popular supposition, Litorius was a Roman general, although it is notorious that Roman generals were no longer known to Spain in the sixth century.

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There is a house called Casa de los Banos, situated in the second quarter of the town, and belonging to the town of Montera, which is conjectured to have been erected by the Moors, and by them used as baths; it has even been supposed that there still exists a pipe communicating with the river, which was destined to afford the necessary supply of water. In opposition to this hypothesis, it may be observed that this house presents no vestige of Moorish construction; the conjecture has originated in the circumstance of its having been built on the same site with the baths, which were public edifices, not peculiar to Talavera, but equally common to Madrid and Barcelona.

Many inscriptions are still extant at Talavera, which for the greater part refer to the lower empire.

Two entire altars are preserved here in the court of the house belonging to donna Maria Philippa Baquero, besides the silk manufactory.

Promenades. Talavera has two principal promenades, situated without, and at the two extremities, of the town; the first on the road from Portugal, and the second on the road from Madrid, each contiguous to the suburbs, the one approximating to the west, the other to the north.

The first is called the French promenade, in consequence of having been planned and laid out by a Frenchman, of the name of Rullier, who had already conferred substantial benefits on the town, by the establishment of a silk manufactory. In this promenade is presented a broad and beautiful alley, planted with trees, extending from the gate of Quartos and the road to Portugal, to the banks of the Tagus, which is more than a thousand feet; it is furnished with stone rails, and is terminated by a terrace commanding the river. This alley is surrounded on the left with new houses, and open on the right to a view of the country; it is little frequented, and even appears neglected; it is kept in no order, and many of its fine trees have perished for want of care. It is probable

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bable that it lies too far from the town to become a favourite place of resort with the public.

The other public walk, called the Prado, or the Pre, is handsome and spacious, of an open agreeable aspect, and situated at a little distance from the right bank of the Tagus; it presents a long parallelogram, somewhat irregular, terminating in a point at its entrance by the road from Madrid. In the middle it appears broad, but grows narrower on the side contiguous to the city. The inequality is, however, so well concealed by plantations, as not to be offensive to the eye. The length of the promenade is fourteen hundred feet; it is two hundred feet in breadth in the road to Madrid, four hundred in the centre, and two hundred and sixty on the side next the town. There is a very broad alley planted with trees, which extends its whole length. There are five other alleys also, equally shady, which embellish the view, and terminate at some little distance from the chapel, before which is left a pretty wide area. These alleys afford the accommodation of seats to the passengers. In the centre of the space, between the town and the chapel, is a large fountain in the form of a pyramid, which rests on two lions, and two cannons, mounted on carriages, from which a copious torrent of water is discharged into a circular bason of ample dimensions. The fountain is of free-stone; but its architecture is indifferent, and its sculpture yet worse. It stands in the centre of the rotunda, whose precincts are marked by two rows of lofty trees. There remains to the right a slope of ground laid out in flowers. There is a little poplar wood which encircles the lawn, and divides the river from the promenade. The Prado is a delightful spot in summer, but its beauties will soon perish from neglect; it is perpetually running to decay, and no care is taken to renew the plantations.

On the right side of this promenade rises a large square edifice; it is bounded at one extremity by the chapel; on

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the back ground by the wood. It incloses an ample space destined to become the scene of combat to conflicting bulls; it is a hundred and forty feet in length to a hundred and twenty in breadth; it is regularly beautiful, and embellished on the three sides by open galleries, in which are constructed boxes for the accommodation of the spectators.

Manufactures. Talavera was, at one period, the seat of poverty. The establishment of silk manufactories has augmented its population, and raised it, if not to opulence, at least to activity. This beneficial undertaking originated, as has been already observed, in the active zeal of John Rullier, a native of Nismes, in Languedoc, to whom the district of Talavera owes its renovation and prosperity. It was the object of his enlightened mind to suggest various plans of utility for its progressive improvement, but, unhappily, his beneficent views were not permitted to operate, and he was often impeded by obstacles insuperable even to his unabated ardor and indefatigable perseverance. This respectable man died a few years since, leaving but one daughter, married to don Joseph Zepeda, who is descended from one of the first families in the country, and whose hospitable mansion offers a most agreeable asylum to strangers.

Exclusive of its silk-looms, Talavera has manufactories of soap, hats, earthen-ware, delf-ware, gildings, and galloon.

The soap manufacture is not extensive, the soft soap alone being made.

The manufacture of hats was introduced some years since by a Frenchman, and in 1791 began to acquire some credit.

The potteries of Talavera were long highly celebrated, and for a considerable time supplied a lucrative and important branch of commerce. They are evidently on the decline. The manufactories are reduced to seven or eight. These productions no longer exhibit the same delicacy of execution. Their designs are also lamentably defective.

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The materials employed in them is a certain earth which is found near Calera, three leagues from Talavera.

The manufactures of silks, gildings, and galloons, are, on the contrary, highly useful and important; they are carried on in three large commodious houses, which are yet inadequate to the increasing demands of trade. Much of the labour is performed in private houses.

There has also been raised at Cervera, a village two leagues from Talavera, another large edifice, in which are twelve mills for twisting the silk; four large windles for winding it; and six machines for doubling it. This complicated machinery is put in motion by four oxen, and the various processes of twisting, winding, and doubling, seven thousand and seventy-two threads of silk, are thus performed at once.

This establishment was rapidly augmented under the direction of Rullier and the other French mechanics who succeeded him in its superintendence. So successful were their labours, that, in a short time, stuffs were fabricated in Spain not unworthy of competition with those of France, the demand for which was found to diminish. In 1762, Rullier being obliged to withdraw from this manufactory, the care of it was committed to a company to the exclusion of almost all the French who had previously assisted in its establishment. The consequences of this change were soon discovered; the manufacture declined; the stuffs were deteriorated; and the consumption diminished; the artizans were discharged from the loom, and every thing threatened the total subversion of the establishment, when the king interposed, and again extended to it his care and protection. It has since been yielded to the incorporated society of the Gremios at Madrid, but has never recovered its former splendor and prosperity.

Taffetas, satins, silk cloths, and serges, are fabricated here, as are silk ribbons, plain and figured velvets, stuffs of silk and

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and silver, stuffs of silk and gold, galloons, gold and silver fringes, and silk stockings. It employs three hundred and sixty-six looms, and affords occupation to two thousand persons. There are annually consumed in it about a hundred thousand pounds of silk, four thousand marks of silver, and seventy marks of gold.

Some of the stuffs issuing from the manufactory are beautiful and good, but they want the gloss and lustre of the French stuffs; and as they are dearer than those are, with all the contingent expence of commission, and transportation, they are far from being able to maintain a competition with them. The stockings are of the vilest quality, being thin, shaggy, and ill-dressed. The greater part of these articles are exported to the Spanish colonies.

But, independent of any particular views of commerce, the establishment of manufactures, by contributing to remove sloth and inactivity, has produced an incalculable good to the whole district. An object is now offered to industry, and a source of hope and plenty opened to repining indigence. A large number of individuals are engaged in a beneficial pursuit, and a lucrative employment. The women spin the silk, the young girls embroider the stockings, and there are even young ladies, who not only find in this department an agreeable occupation for the needle, but a profitable fund by which to defray the expence of their personal ornaments.

Commerce. The situation of Talavera de la Reyna appears favourable to commerce, and were the Tagus rendered navigable, might become an emporium of wealth.

But whatever aptitudes to trade it may have received from nature, are wholly neglected; nor is its agriculture in a more advanced state. To the fertile soil nothing but industry is requisite to render it a scene of smiling abundance. With the advantages of an inland stream, and a maritime river, it offers all the possible facilities for irrigation, which would equally fertilize meadows and gardens, and secure a succession

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sion of harvests, which are now lost from dryness and aridity: wheat, oil, and wine, would thus be multiplied, and new species of culture might be introduced; but no such efforts can be expected from the inhabitants of Talavera. Sunk in apathy or sloth, they attempt not to deviate from the narrow track prescribed by prejudice and ignorance. They have not the courage to hazard innovation, or the ambition to pursue improvement; and such is their implicit deference for precedent, that they are content to follow the example of their fathers, without even admitting the suspicion that progression is possible, or change expedient. Mariana, their countryman, who lived two hundred years ago, has strongly stigmatized their indolence and improvidence; and the character thus affixed to them by their contemporary, is amply justified by subsequent experience.

Celebrated Men. Several distinguished men have arisen in this town, who have earned their reputation by a long and laborious course of application. Among these are the Civilians, Antony Gomez,* Fernando Gomez Arias,† Antony de Meneses y Padilla,‡ Barthlemy Frias de Albornos||, and Alphonso Herrera, celebrated for his agricultural work which was published in 1520, but, unfortunately, made little impression on his contemporaries. Talavera also gave birth to Garzia de Loaisa Giron, archbishop of Toledo, author of the collection of the councils of Spain, (published in 1593); to Bernardin de Meneses, who wrote the history of the Flemish war, and to John Mariana, the great historian of Spain, who died in 1623, at the advanced age of ninety. Tradi-

* He wrote on civil law, and left a commentary on the laws of Spain; he lived in the middle of the sixteenth century.

† He produced in 1546 a commentary on the laws of Toro.

‡ He wrote on civil law in 1570.

|| He published in 1570 Arte de los Contratos; he wrote also another work, entitled Linages de Espana, which was never printed.

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tion has also given to Talavera the female saint Sabina, who suffered martyrdom at Avila; but some historians award this legendary honour to Evora in Portugal.

Manners. Customs. At first sight Talavera appears an agreeable place; it is happily situated, and enjoys a delightful climate; it has fine promenades, and it includes a sufficient number of respectable families to secure the advantages of polished society; yet, by a strange and inconceivable fatality, every domestic circle is isolated; every family remains alone; there is either no intercourse, or such as, from the restrictions of etiquette, is inevitably rendered insipid, gloomy, and monotonous.

The beautiful promenades form no sources of amusement to the inhabitants; they are rarely frequented except on certain holidays. The same cautious reserve is always visible, and the women, even when they meet the men, scarcely venture to speak to them.

Public diversions are rare occurrences. There are few balls; plays are performed only during one part of the year. The bull-fights are suspended here as in other parts of Spain, or are permitted only on very extraordinary occasions.

It would not be invidious to remark the negligence of parents in the education of their children; they arrive at maturity without having made any valuable attainments. The young men are uninformed on every subject; the young women incompetent to the discharge of any duty. There are, however, sometimes, a few who rise from the mass, and, under every disadvantage, arrive at knowledge; such is don Joseph Zepeda already mentioned; and such the marquis Buscayolo, now resident in Madrid, with the title of marquis de Contreras, who not only collects books, but loves letters, and, in himself, possesses a treasure of knowledge. M. Manso, an advocate; don Francisco à Ponte, called also Mejorada, or more commonly Marchena, who, under an unprepossessing

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ing exterior, and in a garb of almost cynical austerity, conceals an inexhaustible fund of knowledge in geography, history, and antiquities. He is indebted for nothing either to the education he received from his parents, or to the company of well-informed people; but owes all his attainments to himself; he never travels from his own country, but is always employed, and takes advantage of those few resources he has in a well-selected, though not numerous, library; his fortune does not permit him to resign himself to his taste and to render it more considerable.

At Talavera you never hear any mention made of poignards, murders, assassinations, and disputes, which are very frequent in other places.

The amusements of the people are simple and little diversified; one of their pleasures is singing, both within doors and in the streets at night, and accompanying themselves with the zambomba, an instrument of a monotonous and humming tone, the description of which is given in another part of this work. This lasts from All Saints day till Christmas. At that time the zambomba ceases, and they substitute in the place of it the pandero, an instrument something like the tabor, to the music of which they both sing and dance seguidillas.

At Talavera some particular customs are observed, and considered sacred on account of their antiquity; but, as there is in them a mixture of the ceremonies of the Catholic church with certain profane rites, they would well deserve to be suppressed.

On the morning of Easter-day a pile of wood is raised in one of the principal squares, in the middle of which a gigantic statue is erected, dressed in the most fashionable style, and they look upon it as the representation of Judas. As soon as the procession, which celebrates the mystery of the Resurrection, begins to move, they set fire to it. The pile being lighted, the figure is burnt and reduced to ashes.

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During the time that the procession is passing, the prodigious crowd of people are more intent upon this spectacle than on the religious ceremony exhibited to them; they celebrate it by peals of laughter, immoderate acclamations and huzzas, and frequently by very licentious conversation.

Another custom, perhaps, still more reprehensible, is yet maintained with vigour. During the nine days preceding Christmas-day, high mass is performed by the Cordeliers; at six o'clock in the morning, children furnished with whistles, assemble together there. As soon as the mass begins, the vaulted roofs of the church resound with the strong and shrill sound of innumerable whistles; they accompany the singing of the priests with this disorderly noise at the elevation of the host, the communion, and the prayers at the end of the mass: it is called the Mass of Aginaldo.

The Mondas de Talavera have been famous. It is the name given to a fête, celebrated every year after Easter in honour of the Virgin Mary of the Prado. The inhabitants of the neighbouring villages assemble on that day, forming as many processions as there are villages, in ranks; each procession is preceded by an immense taper dressed out with ribbons and flowers, which is carried erect like the cross; they also bear a large machine in the form of a funnel raised at the end of a long stick, which is also ornamented with flowers, placed and arranged in different manners. It contains one part of the offering they are obliged to make to the Holy Virgin. You also see sedan chairs carried by men; cars drawn by oxen, all ornamented with flowers and ribbons, and equally loaded with offerings consisting of the productions of the earth; corn, wine, oil, fruits, flowers, and even of wood, according to the taste, inclination, or devotion, of each votary, and sometimes even the animals, are adorned in the same manner. Lambs, sheep, horses, asses, hogs, are offered to the Virgin. All these

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these productions are carried into the chapel, and with them the sedan chairs, the chariots, and the animals which are led to the foot of the altar. These ceremonies give rise to frequent disputes; the meeting of two processions creates a quarrel which shall have precedence, and they frequently come to blows; the processions throw each other into disorder and confusion; a battle ensues with fists, sticks, and stones, and the action is often bloody. The origin of this custom is unknown, but might probably be found in the antiquities of Paganism, such as the feasts of Pomona and Ceres.

This ceremony is celebrated on particular days. The principal attraction formerly was the bull-fights; but they are now prohibited; they were under the direction of the Knights of the Virgin Mary of Prado, who used to contribute to the splendour by running themselves. It will not be improper here to mention the origin and nature of this peculiar order of knighthood.

In 1538 some gentlemen of Talavera formed an association, and bound themselves and their successors to appear on horseback in a blue and white dress at the public feasts which were celebrated every year in honour of the Virgin Mary of the Prado, to fight with bulls, to joust against each other, and to perform all those feats which knights errants were accustomed to do on similar occasions. This institution, and their regulations, were approved by the archbishop of Toledo, the lord of the city, and confirmed by the king. They were sometimes called, in the sixteenth century, Cavalleros hermanos de la fiesta de los toros, or Knights Brothers of the bull-fights; but the name which they bear at present is Hermandad de los Cavalleros de la Virgen del Prado, signifying the Brotherhood or Association of the Knights of the Virgin of the Prado.

This establishment is still in existence. Properly it should consist of noblemen only, but abuses have crept in here as well

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well as every where else. It has a chief, entitled Hermano major, (head brother,) who is chosen every year by the knights, who likewise have the election of those they wish to admit into their order.

The dress of these knights is peculiar; some of them wear gala habits, while others are in mourning. The first is a mixture of the Moorish and ancient Spanish costume; it is a kind of a white woollen jacket, with very full sleeves of a silk stuff embroidered with silver flowers, and sits quite close before, ornamented on the left side of the body with a large medallion embroidered in silver, representing the Conception of the Virgin Mary; the breeches are likewise of blue silk with silver; a sort of small mantle of white woollen cloth, representing exactly the ancient Spanish mantle, is placed over one shoulder, and falls as low as the waist along the middle of the back. The heads of the knights are covered with round cases, something resembling turbans, about fifty inches high, of blue and white mixture, surrounded with gauze thickly folded, on the top of which is a silver crescent. The mourning dress is more simple and noble; it is black, and the exact ancient Spanish costume, with a little round hat turned up on one side, and ornamented with a plume of feathers. The sword worn with both dresses is the ancient Spanish sword, called de golilla; the handle is black, and guarded by a large basket hilt. When the knights appear on horseback, they bear a buckler on their left arm, on which their device is painted. Their horses are caparisoned with a profusion of roses and cockades of ribbon, ornamented with silver lace; the saddle is covered with a silk stuff, embroidered with silver flowers with a blue border, when they wear a white dress, and red when they are habited in black.

The knights, clothed in this fashion, accompany the image of the Virgin whenever it is taken out of the chapel; they precede it sword in hand, and appear at the fêtes which are celebrated every year in her honour the Saturday of the week

week of Quasimodo; and the day following they exhibit tournaments and jousts, and enter the lists on horseback, two and two; each one is followed by two pages, dressed in their liveries, also on horseback. They run their cavaliers, and perform different evolutions in the square; they joust with canes, and, with a strange kind of gallantry, throw small canes to the ladies, who are in their balconies.

Climate and productions. The climate of Talavera is extremely fine; the atmosphere is pure and serene; the winters are mild, and the summers very hot; the water is very good, and provisions of the best quality are to be had there. In general they enjoy excellent health, and there is scarcely any illness during the greater part of the year; but the heats of summer always occasion a tertian intermittent fever, which in general becomes obstinate and dangerous, and frequently degenerates into chronic complaints; but this is not so much owing to the nature of the climate as to the water, which they suffer to lie stagnant in the streets and the neighbouring parts of the city. This inconvenience might easily be remedied by giving a current to the water, which often remains merely from the bad state of the pavement, which is often taken up, and has neither slope nor gutter. There is nothing dangerous in the fevers themselves, but only in the manner they are treated. The patient is instantly drenched with quinquina (jesuits bark;) and the excessive use of this medicine is continued during several days. The anti-styptic vegetable acids would be much more efficacious.

On leaving Talavera, you continue your road through the same plain, which by degrees becomes more engaging. You do not meet with a single village during the journey till you arrive at Torralva, which is at about six leagues distance. You only pass the Venta de Paravanegas

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vanegas two hours before you arrive at this village: proceeding onwards, for about two hours, you arrive at la Calzada de Oropeza, and after that enter Estremadura.

Itinerary from Talavera de la Reyna to Toledo eleven Leagues.

Talavera de la Reyna.	
Alberche, the river and wooden bridge of	1 league.
Cebolla, little town of	3
Erustes, village	1
Carriches, village	¾
Carmona, small town of	¾
Cerindote, village of	1½
Rielbe, village	1
Guadaramma, river and bridge	1
Toledo, the city of	1

You leave Talavera by the road by which you arrived from Madrid, and pursue it to the distance of half a league beyond the river of Alberche, where you pass over the wooden bridge. Leaving then the road, you turn to the right, and soon come in sight of the Tagus. The country in parts is richly cultivated, and at length seems covered with vines, planted and supported in a singular manner; each plant is in the middle, and on the top of a mound of earth, insulated and raised about the height of two feet. All the land here is sandy, which makes the road difficult

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difficult for travelling, though it is level and in good condition. There is not a single tree to be seen. On the left you find the village of Mount Aragon, and afterwards that of Manoza; soon afterwards you arrive at Cebolla, after four hours travelling from Talavera.

Cebolla is a very small town, containing about two thousand five hundred inhabitants, partly built upon a hill, and partly at the foot of it; it seems to have been more considerable, if one may judge from the great number of houses that are now in ruins. It has a parish church, a chapel of ease, and a hospital. The palace of the duke of Alba, the lord of the manor, stands in the square; it is a considerable edifice, with nine large windows in front. The front is ornamented at each of the extremities with four pillars, placed two by two, but, without capitals; it forms in the middle a swelling projecture, ornamented with four pillars of the same sort, and furnished with a large iron balcony. The gate does not answer to the extent of the building; it is very small, without ornaments, and at one corner.

You leave Cebolla by a steep ascent and a narrow road, which is in good condition, though intersected by hills and deserts; but the high state of cultivation of the neighbouring country renders it very agreeable; it is covered with olive plantations and plots of verdure, which

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frequently adorn the sides of the hills over which you pass.

In half an hour afterwards another spectacle presents itself to the sight on the left. The country is finely cultivated, and covered with olive-trees; they afford evidence of the industry of the inhabitants. On the right you perceive a little wood, crowned with a green plot, extending over the hill on which the wood stands, and rising above the top of the trees: this beautiful prospect is visible for about half an hour.

The fields, all along well cultivated, are in some places without trees, and sometimes covered with olive plantations. You ascend for the space of a quarter of a league, when you again descend and proceed to Erustes, a little village situated at a league's distance from Cebolla, in a narrow and well cultivated valley, which would be very agreeable if the trees were more numerous. Half a league from this village you pass for the space of ten minutes through a small wood of holm oaks, leading to Carriches, a large ill-built village, where the greater part of the houses have no upper story, and are made of mud; it is situated in a well wooded valley. At length you proceed to Carmona, a little town, containing about two thousand five hundred inhabitants. The Posada is

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is very bad; it is the chief town of a corregidorship.

The road should be very good, but it is extremely muddy in winter, and very dusty in summer, and full of ruts in every season; it runs through a large and well cultivated plain, covered with olive plantations where the village of Cerindote stands; you perceive in the fields to the left, at the distance of a short quarter of a league, the village of Torrijos, and in about an hour afterwards arrive at Rielbe, a miserable little hamlet; as you proceed the plain begins to be intersected by little rises, and by degrees becomes very uneven; hills and dales succeed each other for the space of half a league. The road leads to a large valley, where the soil is excellent, but dry and almost destitute of trees, though it is watered by the Guadarrama. You cross this river over a bridge of eleven arches. To this succeeds a very long and steep hill, paved with flints half way up to the top, where you arrive with some difficulty; you still continue to ascend and descend through a parched and barren country, which leads by a disagreeable, difficult, and uneasy road, to the neighbourhood of Toledo.

You come in sight of this town from the top of the last eminence; the first view is far from agreeable, presenting the appearance of a collection of unshapen buildings, piled up and ac-

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cumulated one upon another. As you descend into the valley, you obtain a more distinct prospect, which is not more favourable than the distant view. Among the great number of buildings presented to your attention, the alcazar is the only one worthy of admiration.

Before you arrive at Toledo, you cross over a piece of land in the valley called la Vega, and proceed along a newly-constructed promenade, leading from the gate of Visagra to the manufactory of cutlery, and extending the length of a quarter of a league; it is composed of three straight alleys, intersected at irregular distances, with transverse paths, ornamented with stone seats, and planted with trees, which are still very young; it will be a most beautiful promenade when the trees have attained their full growth.

You enter Toledo by the gate of Visagra, and ascend a very steep and difficult eminence, through several narrow, crooked, and ill-disposed streets, and after considerable difficulty alight at the inn.

TOLEDO.

Toledo is an ancient and formerly a highly celebrated city, and was, in succession, the seat of empire of the Goths, the Moors, and the kings of Castile. The kings of the Goths made it their residence in 567; it was taken from them by the Moors in 711, and became a dependency on

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on the caliphs of Damascus and Bagdad; at length it formed a part of the kingdom of Cordova, till a prince of the Moorish blood royal raised the standard of revolt, and established a separate empire, of which Toledo, about the year 1027, became the capital. Alphonso the Sixth, king of Castile and Leon, called the Brave, besieged it in 1085, and took it from the posterity of the usurper. In such manner this city, after having been under the dominion of the Moors for a period of three hundred and seventy years, came once more into the possession of the ancient Gothic monarchs, by whom it was again made the seat of empire.

The kings of Castile, however, did not long continue in undisturbed enjoyment of this city. The Moors, under the command of their king Ali, besieged it in 1109, but the attempt was fruitless, and they were obliged to raise the siege, after wreaking their vengeance on the environs of Toledo, ravaging and destroying the neighbouring country with fire and sword, and sacking the cities of Madrid and Talavera. They again besieged it in the year 1114, but the city was saved by the valour of don Roderigo Nunez, and in 1127 they made another fruitless effort to establish themselves in it.

At length Toledo became frequently the victim of the fury of civil war. The walls were several times beaten down, the buildings reduced to ashes, and the citizens murdered. The

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reign of Henry the Powerless, must ever be remembered with horror. In the year 1467 the blood of the citizens flowed in the streets, squares, and houses, even the churches were inundated, and several districts of the city were destroyed by the flames; and the same sanguinary scenes were repeated in 1641.

Situation. This city is situated in a narrow valley, of great length, surrounded on all sides by lofty mountains. It is built on the sides and top of a granite mountain, almost completely insulated, rough, steep, and surrounded on three sides by the Tagus, inclosed on all parts by mountains likewise of granite, at a distance from and even commanding the city, particularly behind, where the form is disagreeable, from its dryness, want of trees, and the sterility and sameness of the appearance.

Population. If we are to give credit to history, the population of this city was formerly very considerable, and was even said to amount to two hundred thousand souls; in fact, we find from the ancient extent of the city, that it must have been much greater than it is at present. We perceive on all sides vestiges of its past grandeur and destruction. It is almost impossible to pass through the southern part of the town without lamenting the vicissitudes of human life; the heaps of earth, bricks, and tiles, present the mournful remains of houses, the situation of which they now occupy, and it is impossible to walk in the other quarters of the city without finding similar vestiges. However, to judge from the extent of the city, it is difficult to believe that it ever could have contained so numerous a population; the diminution must have been prodigious, as it is now reduced to about twenty thousand inhabitants.

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At this time they reckon four thousand two hundred and sixty-three families, seventy-nine churches, thirty-nine convents of both sexes, fifteen hospitals, and a number of beautiful edifices.

Extent. The walls which formed the enclosure of this city under the kings of Castile, are still to be seen; they are low, built almost at the foot of the mountain, and defended with small towers, at a certain distance from each other, and built in such a manner as to seem intended, rather to support the soil than to contribute to the defence of the city. The enclosure of the Moors was the smallest; it was confined to the highest part of the city, and flanked with transverse walls, like those already described in speaking of Talavera de la Reyna; there are some still remaining, as well as the foundation of the walls of this enclosure, which are flanked with round towers, and two gates, one of them armed with battlements and loop-holes.

Streets and Squares. The appearance of the city of Toledo is very disagreeable, and the interior not more inviting; the houses are built in the form of an amphitheatre, and are crowded and pressed one against the other, in such a manner, that they seem as if they would mutually crush each other. The streets are narrow, crooked, ill-paved, and uneven; there is not one that is straight, or where two carriages can pass at once, nor is there a single one where you are not obliged to ascend and descend; some are even very steep, rough, and difficult for carriages; a pair of horses, or mules, are not enough, or at least would not long be sufficient, and people of fortune put in four or six, merely to go about the city; the streets are lighted for a very short time during the night, and then in a mean and insufficient manner.

Clergy. Toledo is the seat of an archbishopric, established in the year 1085, after the expulsion of the Moors; the diocese includes a chapter of the cathedral, a chapter of the collegiate, an abbey consecrated to St. Vincent, twenty-

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twenty-five archdeacons, twelve vicars, and and eight hundred and two parishes. It is the richest archbishopric in Spain, and probably in all Chistendom; the revenue is said to amount to twelve million reals, or three millions of French livres.* The archbishop takes the title of primate of all Spain, which was contested with him for a long time by the churches of Seville and Taragona; he enjoys that of grand chancellor of Castile, a title that has for a long time past been without employment; he has a great number of officers attached to his person or situation, a council of government, consisting of a president, four counsellors, a reporter, and a secretary, a cabinet secretary, two public secretaries, a chamber advocate, three advocates of dignity, two theologians of the chamber, a treasurer-general, private treasurers, contadors, five general agents of dignity, &c.

This city has a cathedral chapter, a very numerous clergy, twenty-five parish churches, sixteen monasteries, twenty-three convents, fourteen hospitals, one small religious hospital, and a tribunal of the inquisition.

The number of the clergy of the metropolitan church is very great. The chapter includes fourteen dignitaries, twenty-seven canons, and fifty prebends, besides a great number of chaplains, and subaltern priests belonging to the choir. The church contains three other bodies of clergy, distinct from each other, and independent of the chapter. That of the parish of St. Peter in the same church; that of the chapel of Los Reyes; and that of the chapel Muzarabe. The first consists of two vicars, twenty chaplains, and a sacristan; the second is governed by a chaplain-major, and comprehends twenty-four chaplains, and a grand sacristan; and the last has a grand sacristan, and four chaplains.

Toledo was the place where twenty councils were held. The first was assembled in the year 400, against the Priscillianites, and the last in the year 860, under the empire of the

* About 125,000*l.* sterling.

Moors.

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Moors.* This city was also the place where the national assemblies were frequently held, first known under the name of councils, and afterwards under that of cortes, or states-general; the first was in the year 589.†

Hospitals. One of the hospitals of this city is intended for the cure of persons infected with the venereal disease, who come from the most distant parts of Spain, by means of the external application of mercury; they are unacquainted with any other method of cure, but of this remedy they are prodigal beyond measure; the courses are long and disagreeable, often dangerous, almost always attended with accidents, and the cures become difficult, uncertain, and rare. There is another hospital for the reception and maintenance of sixty incurables, thirty of each sex. That of St. Croix is intended for bastards and foundlings, and most of the others for poor invalids; the principal is that of St. John the Baptist. There is besides a hospital for the poor.

Administration. Toledo is the chief town of the province of that name, and the place of residence of the intendant of

* Some of these councils were very remarkable:—That in the year 579, instituted a form of prayer to conciliate the Catholics and Arians, the consequences of which were very lamentable; that in the year 646 adjudged the supremacy of all the Spains to the archbishopric of Toledo; that of 684 received the decrees of the council-general of Constantinople against monothelism; that of 860 was composed of bishops, under the dominion of the Moors of Cordova, almost all half-Mahometans; the bishops erected themselves into collectors of the taxes, and condemned Samson, the only orthodox priest in all Spain.

† These assemblies were at first composed of the prelates and grandees, the commons were not admitted till towards the middle of the thirteenth century; that of 589 was the epocha of the partition of the legislative power between the king and the nation; that of 633 obliged the king to convoke the nation every year; that of 636 confirmed the election of Swinthilla to the crown, and gave the king a right of pardoning criminals; that of 637 was employed on devising means to prevent the cabals and troubles inseparable from the election of kings; that of 653 declared the crown-lands to be inalienable; that of 680 confirmed the election of king Ervigus, and granted dispensation to the people from their oath of fidelity to the king Vamba.

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the district. This city has a corregidor, an alcade mayor, and a university, with twenty-four professors, four thousand students, and four colleges, an economical society, a manufactory of small arms, a silk manufactory, and a battalion of militia, the officers and soldiers of which are quartered in different towns in the district, and assemble twenty days in a year.

Curious Buildings. It is one of the towns of Spain, where the greatest number of beautiful buildings are found, which announce the power and greatness of empires, and of which some will even bear a comparison with the monuments left us by the Romans.

The church of the convent of the grand Carmelites has a facing, adorned with beautiful Doric pillars, but loaded with ornaments of a bad taste. The principal altar of the church is decorated with fine pictures, by Anthony Arias, painted by that artist at the age of fourteen years. The chancel contains two mausoleums, with kneeling statues of marble, beautifully executed; one is that of Peter Lopez de Ayaia, famous for the victory gained by him over the Moors, who died in the year 1444; the other holds the ashes of Peter Lopez de Ayala, major-domo to Philip the Second, and counsellor of state, who died in the year 1599.

The church of San Juan de los Reyes belongs to the monks of the order of St. Francis, and was built by king Ferdinand the Fifth and queen Isabella his wife; it has nothing remarkable except the iron and chains that cover the outside of the walls, and are those worn by the Christians when they were found in slavery at Granada at the time this city was conquered.

The church of the Capuchin nuns contains some pieces worthy of observation. A statue of the Conception of the Virgin Mary, in marble, by Pereyra, placed over the gate; some pieces of good sculpture, in a chapel, on the side of one of the gates of the church, such as a wooden crucifix, of the natural

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natural size; a Jesus Christ, bearing the cross; a group of Jesus Christ in the arms of the Virgin Mary; some good pictures, such as the paintings over the two collateral altars, particularly the Holy Virgin appearing to St. Rose, of Lima, thought to be one of the finest productions of Gimigniani. The principal altar is built of black and red marble, ornamented with a circular tabernacle of beautiful architecture, formed of very handsome Sicilian marble, with the heads of seraphims on the frieze, and some other ornaments in bronze.

The church of St. Peter the Martyr belongs to the Dominicans. The church and cloister contain some good pictures. The portico, of a good style of architecture, is composed of two pilasters and two columns of the Corinthian order, with the statue of St. Peter the Martyr in the middle, and the images of Religion and Charity at the sides. On the top are the royal arms.

The ancient church of the Jesuits is large but inelegant. The front is of the Corinthian order, and has two large rows of pillars, ornamented with statues, and a portico, over which is a group of the Virgin Mary and St. Ildefonso, in bass-relief; at first sight the appearance is imposing but on a more accurate examination, you perceive that the architecture is heavy, and the ornaments far too numerous, and of bad taste.

The church of the bare-footed Carmelites has nothing remarkable, except a statue of the Conception, finely executed, and a picture of the Descent of the Holy Ghost, over the principal altar; it is said to be the production of Dominican, but it does not appear to have the touch of that celebrated artist. The statue is placed in the portico of the church, which is of the Doric order.

The church of Silos, or Santo Domingo el Antiquo, belongs to the Benardine nuns. It is of the Ionic order, and the building is fine. The great altar, which is of wood, is of two bodies of architecture; the first is ornamented with pilasters

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pilasters and pillars of the Corinthian order, with the statues of St. Paul and St. John the Evangelist; the middle is filled by a large painting of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, with the apostles, all the figures as large as life; another painting of Jesus Christ dying in the arms of the Almighty, with groups of angels kneeling, fills the middle of the second body; the two collateral altars are of the Corinthian order, and have both a fine painting over them, a Nativity and a Resurrection.

La Casa de los Vargas, that is, the house, hotel, or place of Vargas, is a superb monument of private magnificence; it was built towards the end of the sixteenth century, by Diego de Vargas, secretary of state to king Philip the Second; this building is on the ramparts, near the gate Cambron, in a very fine situation, from whence you perceive a certain extent of the river, and all the Vega, or little plain, which fills the valley; it belongs at present to the Count de Mora, who permits it to fall into ruins. The front is constructed of fine marble, and is of the Corinthian order; it has a portico, beautifully executed, and supported by two fluted Doric pillars, the pedestals of which are covered with military trophies, in bass-relief; the frieze is ornamented with morrions, bulls heads, and medallions; over the cornices are placed two female statues, as large as life, bearing a coat of arms. The court is spacious, and surrounded with two rows of beautiful galleries, one above the other, and supported by pillars of the Doric order in the first row, and of the Ionic in the second; an elegant stair-case leads to the apartments, where there are a number of large cornices covered with fancy ornaments in bass-relief.

The Alcazar, an Arabic word, signifying the palace, is the most remarkable building in Toledo; it was rebuilt by Alphonso the Tenth, and repaired by Charles the First. At the commencement of this century, during the struggles for the succession, it was almost reduced to ashes by the wanton bar-

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barbarity of the Portuguese troops, confederated with the Austrians, who, at the conclusion of the treaty, set fire to the town, and left in enveloped in flames; they perpetrated the same outrage on the beautiful bridge of Alcantara, in Estremadura. The only parts of the palace which escaped their fury were the principal walls, including the court, the grand stair-case, the chapel, which was, however, half unroofed, and some other apartments; the most considerable rooms were left in ruins, without floors or roofs, exposed to the devastations of the elements; no effort was made to restore these desolated walls, which were continually falling to decay, till cardinal Lorenzana, the archbishop of Toledo, whose munificence is fully commensurate with the amplitude of his revenues, anxious to consecrate this edifice to two uses equally directed to the public good, repaired it at his own expence, and presided over the undertaking with a spirit of liberality not unworthy of a great monarch. The site of this structure is in the highest part of the town; it stands in an oblong area, sheltered by a rising bank, from whence the eye takes a rapid view of the valley and the circumjacent mountains. In 1790 there were placed on either side of the gates of Alcazar two statues, large as life, formed of baked clay, painted white, and raised on pedestals of free-stone; they represent two of the most celebrated Gothic kings who reigned in Spain, Recesuinto and Recaredo, of whom the first died in 672, and the latter in 601.

In this area the palace presents a front of a hundred and sixty feet; it is a substantial, noble, majestic structure, tastefully embellished; it has three rows of eight windows, over each of which is raised an attic, surmounted by a head, but in such a fantastic manner, that of the twenty-four heads there are no two which correspond with each other; it is terminated at each extremity by a body of architecture, which projects in the shape of a large square pavilion, without any ornament.

The front gate forms an arch in the centre, and it is adorned with four Ionic columns, raised on pedestals, over which

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which is a cornice surmounted with the arms of Spain and Austria, on either side of which is a king at arms. On the frieze appears the following inscription:

CAR. V. RO. IMP. HIS. REX. MDLI.

You enter a superb vestibule, supported by large and solid double columns. Formerly here were two marble statues, which, in the lapse of time, were mutilated, defaced, and finally destroyed. The vestibule leads to a large square court, the four sides of which are surrounded with a double piazza, one over the other, and supported by seventy-four columns of free-stone, some of which are of the Composite, and others of the Corinthian order; and, altogether, produce a strong impression of grandeur on the spectator.

The chapel is simply a square, without ornament; on each side it has four pilasters of the Corinthian order, which support the cornice.

The grand staircase is substantially constructed of free-stone; in front it presents a breadth of forty-three feet; but, at the first landing-place, it forms a curve to the right and left, and then presents a second flight of steps only twenty-two feet in breadth; it is inclosed within a vestibule, adorned with two rows of pilasters of the Corinthian order. The staircase, though superb, has this defect, that the width is not proportioned to the length; and the spectator, after having been surprised by the abrupt termination of the first flight, is shocked to discover the comparative narrowness of the second. This deviation from the original plan is highly injudicious, as it must inevitably suggest an unpleasing comparison of grandeur and poverty, of meanness and magnificence.

In the interior rooms there is nothing particularly worthy of notice; but there are some subterraneous apartments, handsome, spacious, and finely vaulted, which are said by M. de Pons to contain a stable large enough for five thou-

sand

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sand horses; but this must be a mistake, as the whole range of subterraneous apartments could not contain more than five hundred horses.

The hospital of Santa Crux was founded by cardinal Peter Gonzalez de Mendoza, archbishop of Toledo, who died in 1495; it was erected on the site of the old palace of the Gothic kings, afterwards occupied by the Moorish sovereigns. This edifice was begun in 1504, and completed in 1514; it is on a splendid scale of magnificence; architecture, sculpture, and painting, have conspired in its favour; every object is grand, noble, and majestic, and worthy of the munificent spirit of the founder, who was not, however, destined to witness the consummation of his labours.

The front gate, which is parly of marble and partly of white stone, is truly noble; it supports several figures in bass-relief, and, among others, the Discovery of the Cross, by the empress Helena, and the statue of the founder on his knees. To the right you discover a large handsome staircase, the steps of which are of marble; it is adorned with balustres wrought in ornamental foliage; you next approach two large courts, raised one over the other, and surrounded by a double row of piazzas opening into arches, supported by columns of marble.

The church is in the shape of a cross, and is surmounted with a dome; it contains a collection of fine paintings, the best of which are a series of six large pieces, suspended in the nave, where they supply the place of hangings, and are connected with each other by the dispositions of their respective ornaments; of these the first represents St. Augustin appearing to St. Julian; the second, St. Eugenius the Third, teaching young people to sing; the third, St. Ildefonso presenting a book to some monarch seated on his throne; the fourth, is St. Eulogius writing before a chorus of virgins; the fifth, St. Heladia giving alms; and the sixth

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is Eugenius performing the rite of baptism. They are all admirably executed, and at Toledo are universally attributed to Rubens; but on critical examination the style of this artist is not at all discoverable. The great altar has also a series of paintings, illustrating the life of Jesus Christ, and the Discovery of the Cross; on one of the collateral altars there is a fine copy of the Crucifixion of St. Peter, by Guido.

The hospital of St. John the Baptist is not inferior to the preceding in beauty or magnificence, and even surpasses it in the regularity of the architecture and the richness of the ornaments, by the dignity which pervades the whole, and by the delicacy which prevails in its minuter parts. It is in an agreeable situation, out of the town, opposite the gate of Visagra; it is surrounded by the country, and has the advantage of a pure salubrious air. It was erected towards the middle of the sixteenth century, by the command, and at the expence of cardinal John Tavera, archbishop of Toledo, who died in 1545, just after the commencement of the foundation.

The façade of this edifice was originally totally plain; the ornaments which have been added to it are modern, and in a bad taste, and harmonize neither with the beauty nor the grandeur of the structure.

You pass through a vestibule to a superb piazza, which separates two spacious courts; the piazza communicates on both sides with the courts by well-defined arches, supported by columns of the Doric order; it is covered by a gallery, which corresponds with the upper galleries of the two courts, and forms the continuation of them. These two courts are large and almost square, each inclosed on three of its sides by a gallery in the manner of a piazza, opening through arches, supported by columns similar to the preceding. The piazza, already mentioned, forms the fourth side; a gallery is raised above, ornamented with columns of the Ionic order.

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order. There are a hundred columns and ninety-six arches; the arches are distributed seven in each row at the two sides of either court, and five also in each row in the two other sides; the effect of the whole is stately and majestic, and produces a happy combination of elegance and grandeur, that might do honour to the noblest ages of architecture.

The church stands at the extremity of the piazza which separates the two courts. It has a façade of the Doric order, constructed of white marble; the gates are flanked with fluted columns, which sustain a cornice, over which are raised two statues in military habiliments, supporting the arms of the founder; the ornaments principally consist of plates placed between sabres and hangers, which are crossed, in allusion to the decollation of John the Baptist. This church is large, handsome, and well-proportioned, and ornamented with a dome, which is elevated a hundred and eighty feet from the ground. The great altar is a fine piece of Ionic architecture, and would be beautiful were it not encumbered, and even disfigured, with superfluous and unsuitable ornaments; it has a tabernacle, the architecture of which is still superior, and there are not wanting some paintings by the first artists. The mausoleum of the founder is just beneath the dome; it is a large tomb, the pedestal of which is covered with ornaments; the statue of the cardinal is there recumbent. There are four other statues, representing the Cardinal Virtues, placed at the four angles; various medallions are distributed in different parts of the monument.

This hospital contains a variety of apartments, admirably calculated for the accommodation of the sick; some of them are intended for their reception in the spring, others in the winter. The men occupy those on the ground-floor, the women those of the upper stories.

The archiepiscopal palace stands in the same square with the town-house; the façade is high but plain; the gate is

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adorned with four columns of the Ionic order, and with statues placed above them.

The town-house is the next edifice worthy of remark. In the front of this building rises a terrace, rather elevated, and ornamented with a stone balustrade; in the mansion there are two rows of galleries, raised one over the other; that on the first story opens through nine arches, which are separated by as many columns; that on the second story has nine windows, which are also divided by columns; the façade is terminated at each extremity by a square pavilion, which rises above the edifice, the architecture of which, partly Doric and partly Ionic, exhibits great taste. On the staircase are hung the portraits of Charles the Second and his consort, on horseback, by Carreno, with a large painting by Greco, representing a view of Toledo and its environs.

The metropolitan church is one of the monuments of antiquity particularly interesting to the curiosity of travellers in Spain. Its foundation is, on some authorities, referred to the primitive ages of Christianity; the first authentic date is that of the consecration performed in 630; and that this ceremony took place at the commencement of the reign of Flavio Recaredo, a Gothic monarch, appears from the following inscription:

In nomine Dñi consecra
ta ecclesia Scte Marie
in catolico die primo
idus aprilis anno feli
citer primo regni Dñi
nostri gloriosissimi fl
Recaredi regis era
DC XXX.

This inscription is traced on a white columnal stone, fifteen inches in height, which is seen in the cloister of the church,

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church, and was discovered in 1581, in digging the foundation of the church of St. John of Penitence.

On the conquest of Toledo by the Moors in 714, this church was converted into a mosque, and even after the cession of the town to Alphonso the Sixth, it was, by the articles of capitulation, exclusively reserved for the worship of the Moslems; but during the king's absence a party of soldiers, dispatched by queen Constance at the instigation of the archbishop Bernard, entered it by night, indignantly expelled the Moors, and restored the polluted altars of Christ. By this energetic movement the mosque was converted into a church, and in 1227, was repaired and beautified under the auspices of king St. Ferdinand.

In its present state it is a fine majestic pile of Gothic architecture; ornaments of the same character are multiplied in every part, but it is disgraced by the sordid aspect of the façade, which is irregular, low, and flat, and totally unsuitable to the edifice. This façade is on one side flanked by a beautiful lofty square tower, which serves for the belfry; but on the opposite side, instead of a correspondent edifice, there appears only the dome, rising above the chapel of Muzaraba, which, though in figure somewhat approaching to a tower, is round, and considerably lower than the other; such a total want of symmetry is truly offensive. In the centre the portico, which opens through three gates, is supported by two small towers, and encumbered with figures, mouldings, and other ornaments of the Gothic character.

This church has also two lateral gates, one on each side; that of the Relox, or the Clock-house, called also the Lost Child, is covered with a profusion of figures and ornaments in bass-relief, which are evidently in the Gothic taste; but besides being too multifarious and complicated, they are coarsely executed; a handsome tower has since been erected, on which the clock is placed. The other gate, called de Los Leones, contains only a profusion of ornaments,

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statues, and bass-reliefs, more neatly executed, but too complicated and incongruous; the doors are covered with plates of bronze, fancifully decorated with figures. In the front appears a small terrace, inclosed within iron grates, which are supported by six columns of white marble, over which are placed six lions constructed of the same materials.

The church is of considerable extent; it is three hundred forty-eight feet in length, and a hundred and seventy-four in breadth; it has five aisles, the middle is the broadest, and is elevated a hundred and thirty-eight feet from the ground; the two next are not equally high; and the two last are yet lower; they are formed by vaults and arches, supported by eighty-four columns of an enormous volume, or rather by eighty-four groupes of columns, in the Gothic style. The pavement is of large square stones of black and blue marble. Considered as a whole, this edifice is neither noble nor magnificent; it is indeed disfigured by the position of the choir, which almost fills up the grand aisle, and has the appearance of a high massive wall, that obstructs the view of the church, and totally precludes the developement of its respective parts. In the great aisle there are five partitions; the first includes the space between the principal entrance and the choir, which is plain and unornamented; in the second is the choir, which is precisely equal to the great aisle in breadth, and occupies one fourth of its length; the third is a vacant space between the choir and the chancel; the fourth is the chancel, equal to the choir in breadth, and completely inclosed on three sides; the fifth is the space between the chancel and the chapel, which terminates the length of the church. These divisions and partitions obstruct the perspective, and totally destroy the majesty of the edifice.

The choir is both lofty and large; on the outside are placed statues and bass-reliefs in profusion; on the inside are two rows of seats, of which there are sixty stalls appropriated to the dignified clergy, and fifty to priests of an inferior order

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order; the arms, backs, and seats, exhibit bass-reliefs, which were executed by Alexander Berruguete and Philip de Bourgogne; each of which, in a detached view, appears to be a master-piece of neatness and elegance, though, from the total want of design and arrangement, the whole series cannot be contemplated without disappointment and disgust; they are indeed nothing more than a confused mass of figures, and their multifarious ornaments have the unfortunate effect of eclipsing each other; the cornice of the upper row of seats supports a succession of marble statues, representing patriarchs, prophets, saints, and martyrs; a piece of sculpture, by Berruguete, exhibiting the Transfiguration of Christ, surmounts the archiepiscopal chair; one of the three desks in the choir is of steel; it is in the shape of an hexagonal castle, with two rows of windows, in which are inserted the figures of the twelve disciples, cast in bronze; on the turret is an eagle of the same material. The other two desks form each a pedestal, on which are raised three fluted Doric columns; over them is the architrave and the frieze, ornamented with bronze medallions in bass-relief, and a cornice, which also supports bronze figures. At the entrance of the choir there is a grate of iron, plated with silver, magnificently wrought, and embellished with a profusion of figures in bass-relief.

The capilla mayor, or the chancel, is another inclosure, in many respects corresponding with the choir, but more elevated; its architecture is Gothic. On the outside it is supported by enormous clusters of pillars; on the inside it is loaded with ornaments, consisting of statues, figures, and bass-reliefs; on every side the eye is dazzled, and even fatigued, with splendor. Among other objects to which the attention is invited, is the statue of the Shepherd who conducted Alphonso the Eighth to the battle of Las Navas de Tolosa; you are also shewn the statue of the Moor Alfaqui, who had the generosity to throw himself in the

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way of Alphonso, and to make every effort to appease his resentment against queen Constance and archbishop Bernard, at whose instigation the mosque had been converted into a church, contrary to his royal word and the articles of capitulation.

The chancel contains the monuments of Alphonso the Seventh, Sancho the Beloved, and Sancho the Brave; and the tombs of don Pedro, son to Alphonso, and the cardinal Peter Mendoza; of the latter the architecture is not more elaborate than beautiful.

It is inclosed by a grate, corresponding with that presented at the entrance of the choir; facing it, on the outside, are two hexagonal pulpits, opposite each other, whose six sides are divided by small pilasters, terminating in the figures of satyrs, on which are raised the cornice; four of these compartments present bass-reliefs of the four evangelists; the whole discovers good workmanship.

The great altar is an enormous mass of multifarious sculptures, piled on one another; from the respect due to antiquity it is permitted to preserve its place, and in reality, with all its wild irregularity, is not without a certain venerable air of grandeur, which happily accords with a religious edifice.

An altar, no less elevated than the roof, is placed behind the great altar, just without the precincts of the chancel, and precisely opposite to the chapel of St. Ildefonso. It is distinguished by the appellation of the transparent altar, an aperture having been made in it which communicates with the great altar, and at certain seasons affords a glimpse of the Holy Sacrament. All connoisseurs concur in ridiculing the puerility of this design, and in stigmatizing the coarseness of its execution; it has been censured in the strongest terms by M. le Pons and M. le Caymo, as a jumble of contradictions and absurdities; and it would be certainly difficult to conceive any thing more destitute of taste than the

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pile of marbles, statues, and ornaments, of which it is composed. In the centre is a clumsy fragment of sculpture, representing the Virgin, surrounded by saints, angels, and bass-reliefs.

There is, however, a fine painting of the abbot St. Antony, after the manner of Tristan.

The windows of the transepts of the church are of painted glass, exhibiting a series of scriptural subjects; they are of different eras, and it would not be difficult to point out their respective dates by the style and manner observable in the several pannels and compartments. The most ancient are such as discover the Gothic taste, and surpass the rest in the beauty and harmony of their colours; but they have been wretchedly disfigured by an intermixture of incongruous paintings, which from time to time were made to supply the place of the broken panes.

There are several chapels belonging to this church, not unworthy of particular attention.

The chapel of Muzaraba, founded by cardinal Ximenes, is distinguished only by a fresco painting, which represents the conquest of Oran.

St. Peter's chapel, which serves for a parochial church, was repaired in 1791; it is a single nave of Gothic architecture, in which there is little to distinguish but a large modern painting, which invests the great altar; the subject of it is St. Peter restoring the lame beggar at the gate of the temple; it is by Vallego. It is impossible not to contemplate with pleasure the tables belonging to the altars of this chapel; they are all of marble, and of the most exquisite beauty.

The chapel of Los Reyes Neuvos, or the New Kings, contains the mausoleums of several kings and queens; in particular we may remark that of Henry the Second, natural son of Alphonso the Second, who obtained the throne by deposing his brother Peter the Cruel, surnamed the Judge; and

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and of queen Joanna, his consort; the tombs of John the First, son of Henry the Second, who died in 1390, at the age of thirty-two, and of his queen Eleanor; those of king Henry the Third, son of John the First, who died in 1407, at twenty-seven years, and his queen Catherine. Here is also a picture of the Birth of Christ, by Orrente, and the statue of John the Second, who was interred in the Carthusian Monastery at Miraflores, near Burgos.

St. James's chapel is close to that of St. Ildefonso, hereafter to be described, and exhibits the same style of architecture. It is large and spacious, and nearly square, with a superb profusion of Gothic ornaments; here are two pictures of St. Antony of Padua and of St. Vincent-Ferrier It contains three handsome monuments; that of John de Zerezuela, archbishop of Toledo, who died in 1742; that of Alvarez de Luna, grand-master of the order of St. James, constable of Castile, long the prime minister and favourite of John the Second, but who was finally condemned to lose his life on the scaffold, by the express mandate of the same prince, in whose name he had superintended the administration of Leon and Castile. The memory of this unfortunate favourite is emblazoned by a splendid tomb, adorned with figures in bass-relief, and flanked at the four angles with four statues on their knees, large as life, who have all the expression of the most poignant grief; on the tomb is placed a recumbent statue of the constable, armed and invested with the appropriate insignia of his order. The tomb of his consort, Joanna de Pimentel, is the counterpart of the other, with this only difference, that the four statues in the attitude of prostration, are those of four religious Franciscans.

St. Ildefonso's chapel is at the lower end of the great aisle, in front of the transparent altar; it is of an octagonal form, of Gothic architecture; at each of the eight sides are two fluted columns, with gilded foliage, on which

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which the arches of the roof are supported; there are four niches also, one at each angle, each of which is bordered by two fluted columns, with gilded mouldings, and formed by arches of the same description, but each diversified from the other. The great altar, which was erected a few years since, is formed of two fluted columns of blue marble; the flutings are incrusted with gilded copper, the bases and pedestals of white marble, in a gilded frame; their capitals are also gilt. A large picture, in relief, which represents St. Ildefonso receiving the chasuble from the Holy Virgin, fills the middle space of the altar; the design is well executed in white marble, and has a fine expression.

Among the marble mausoleums in this chapel are found, that of cardinal Giles d'Albornos, archbishop of Toledo; the statue of the prelate is recumbent on a tomb, ornamented with various figures; that of John de Contreras, archbishop of Toledo, which is also extremely splendid; the statue of this prelate is recumbent on the tomb in pontificial robes; that of Inigo Lopez Carrillo de Mendoza, likewise recumbent, covered with his arms; that of Alphonso Carrillo de Albornoz, bishop of Avila, who died in 1524, this is lofty and magnificent, the architecture being good, and highly embellished with sculpture; the statue of this prelate also is presented in a recumbent attitude clad in pontificial robes.

The chapel de Nuestra Senora del Sacrario, or of our Lady of the Tabernacle, was erected at the commencement of the seventeenth century, from the design, and under the superintendence of John Baptiste Monegro; it is composed of three chapels, which follow in succession, and communicate with one another; the first, which is St. Marino's chapel, is anterior to the others, and contains nothing remarkable; in the second is preserved the image of the Virgin, an object of supreme veneration to the inhabitants of Toledo; the third is called the Octavo, an appellation derived from its peculiar figure.

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The second of these chapels is square; its architecture is of the Composite order, and exhibits splendid magnificence; its walls are covered with pannels and various ornaments, composed of the finest marbles of Spain; it is embellished with eight pilasters of red and white marble, bordered with blue, with gilded capitals; it is paved with large squares of white and blue marble; it contains two mausoleums, one on each side, extremely simple in their structure; the roof opens by a dome, somewhat elevated, adorned with fresco paintings, executed by Caxes and Carducho. The great altar has two stories of architecture; the first is of four pilasters of red marble, veined with white, and set in blue marble, with gilt capitals; in the centre is raised an arch of white marble, forming a large niche, in which is placed the statue of the Virgin. The second has a pyramid at each side, and in the centre two pilasters of the same red marble veined with white, surmounted by an entablature in white marble.

The third is octagonal; like the others it is embellished with marbles, and the paintings of Ricci and Carreno; it is full of niches elaborately embellished, in which is preserved a prodigious quantity of relics, in urns and shrines of silver or gold, some of which are enriched with precious stones. It contains among other pieces an infant Jesus, one foot in length, wrought in gold and covered with precious stones; a small altar, with two columns entirely of porphyry, three feet high; a silver throne, two thousand five hundred marks in weight, on which is placed the statue of the Virgin; a superb brasier of silver, three feet in diameter, with a covering, of a conical shape, in filligree of silver, exquisitely wrought; the whole fabric is not less than five feet in height.

From the church you pass into a cloister, which is handsome, large, and spacious, and discovers in its plan and execution as much majesty as elegance. It is of a square figure,

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figure, and is adorned with Gothic columns; it opens on a garden, by lofty well defined arches, the openings of which are inclosed within iron grates of elaborate workmanship; it is paved with large squares of free-stone. Originally the walls of this cloister were hung with pictures; but these being defaced, a substitute was found for them in a series of fresco paintings, executed by Maella and Vallego. There are twelve pieces which fill the chasm intervening between the columns; but the humidity of which they are here susceptible inevitably condemns them to destruction. One of the new pieces is already in decay, in consequence of which the continuation of the plan has been suspended.

The next apartment to be considered is the chapter-room, which, though handsome, scarcely answers the expectations the mind is prepared to form from the wealth of the church, and the dignity of its chapter. A series of portraits is here presented of the archbishops of Toledo, some of which are in oil; but the greater part in fresco. Those of the archbishops Siliceo, Tavera, Carranza, Quicoga, Loyaa, Sandoval, and the archduke Albert, are excellent. Here are also some paintings, the subjects of which are drawn from sacred history; they eminently possess expression, but are destitute of that exquisite polish which is discovered in the works of the great masters.

In the archives of the chapter are shewn the chests in which its deeds are contained; they are of wood, but were constructed by Berruguete, and present the Doric form of architecture; they have each six pilasters, of which the pedestals, as well as the cornice, support allegorical figures of a noble character. The chests are covered with infantine figures, medallions, festoons, and other fanciful ornaments, all in bass-relief, and executed with as much precision as delicacy.

The sacristy is divided into several apartments not unworthy of minute examination.

The

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The first contains some good pictures; among others, the crucifixion of St. Peter, by Eugenio Caxes, and the crucifixion of St. Andrew, by Vincent Carducho; they are both distinguished by taste and expression, and are remarkable for beauty of colour, and correctness of design.

The next room, which, properly speaking, includes the sacristy, is handsome, lofty, and spacious; it is a long rectangular apartment, and has but one aisle, the perspective of which is finely unfolded to the view; its architecture is of the Corinthian order; on each side it is embellished with a double row of pilasters; it is paved with large squares, some of them in white and others in red marble; it contains a variety of pictures, some of which have considerable pretensions to praise. Such is the Deluge by Basan, the Birth of Christ by Orrente, an Assumption, with groups of angels, in the manner of Charles Maratti; a collection of the Apostles; the division by lot of the garments of Christ previous to his crucifixion, in the manner of Titian; an adoration of the kings, by Orrente; a St. Augustin, and various other authors of the religious orders; a St. Leocadia, issuing from the tomb, by Orrente, a piece superior to the rest. The roof is covered with fresco paintings, by Luke Jordan.

In an adjoining room, called the Vestuario, there are also some good pictures, the great number of which are by Basan, Vandyck, Rubens, Rheni, du Greco, de Fiori, de Bellino.

In the adjacent rooms are deposited the treasures of the church. Immense riches are here accumulated, consisting of gold and silver, and precious stones. Simple crosses, archiepiscopal and pastoral crosses, rings, collars, vases, vessels, urns, ewers, basons, chalices, chandeliers, censors, and other articles, consecrated to divine service, are here amassed in profusion. The vestments of the church exhibit equal magnificence; they are made of the richest stuffs, and are superbly embroidered with gold, silver, and pearls. There is a robe of the

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the Virgin, stiff with gold and pearls, the front of which is covered with diamonds and other precious stones.

In the examination of this treasury, the objects that principally attract notice, are four spheres, and a tabernacle, on which the eucharist is carried in the procession on Corpus Christi day.

The four spheres represent the four quarters of the world, correctly engraven, each of which exhibits the attributes peculiarly appropriated to its character. These four spheres are each supported by animals indigenous to its particular region, and surmounted by a symbolical statue. The first rests on three horses, and is crowned by the allegorical figure of Europe; the second, distinguished by the statue of Asia, reposes on three camels; the third, supported by three lions, exhibits the statue of Africa; the fourth stands on three beggars, and is surmounted by the statue of America. These four spheres, their statues and ornaments, are all of silver; they are each three feet in height, and are of exquisite workmanship. This magnificent gift was presented to the church of Toledo by queen Mary of Neuburgh.

The tabernacle is elaborately wrought in the Gothic style; it is of an hexagonal form; it has two hundred and seventy figures, distinctly laid, and without confusion; and its bass-reliefs are multifarious; it is terminated by a cross, and is supported on a high pedestal, from whence divide six columns, exquisitely wrought; altogether its elevation is not less than nine feet; it is of gilt silver, and weighs seven hundred and ninety-four marks, five ounces. In the centre is placed a small ostensoir, ornamented with figures, bass-reliefs, and precious stones; it is of gold, and weighs fifty-seven marks. Both these pieces are constructed of magnificent materials, and exhibit admirable workmanship.

The church of Toledo has a library highly interesting to the curious enquirer; it is enriched with more than seven hundred MSS. many of which are precious. In the sacristy

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is shewn a bible in characters of the twelfth century, embellished with vignettes, in high preservation; it was presented to the church of Toledo by St. Louis, king of France.

Gates. Toledo has four gates, before each of which were lately placed two statues of ancient kings; that of St. Martin is in no respect remarkable; that of Cambron is of good Doric architecture; that of Alcantara, which is destitute of ornaments, opens into an irregular square, where are two other gates, through which is the entrance to the town; that of Visagra is flanked by two thick round towers of massive strength, which bear, in bass-relief, the figures of two ancient Gothic monarchs.

Bridges. There are two bridges over the Tagus, that of St. Martin, and that of Alcantara; they both originate at the gates which bear their respective names. To the first is annexed a tower, in one corner of which is placed a statue of St. Julian, by Berruguete, with an inscription stating the various periods at which the bridge has been repaired and beautified. The other bridge is substantially built; it has three arches, on one of which appears, in Roman characters, the following sepulchral inscription:

CAECILIA
MARCELLA
H. S. E.

The entrance to the bridge is guarded by a beautiful gate of fine architecture, consisting of two columns of the Corinthian order. The inscription traced on its walls informs us, that it was erected in the year 387 of the Arabian era, by Alef, the son of Mahomed Alameri, alcade of Toledo, and at the instance of Almanzor Almoraenim Hixem. We are also informed, that in 1258, Spain was deluged by torrents of rain, which prevailed from September to December, overwhelmed the country, swept away many bridges, and even destroyed

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destroyed a considerable part of this bridge at Toledo, when king Alphonso, son of Ferdinand and Beatrix, caused it to be restored.

Antiquities. Of all the edifices which the Romans raised at Toledo, the monuments of their power and magnificence, few vestiges are now visible. There yet remain some fragments of piazzas, and seats, which indicate the site of an ancient circus. These are found without the limits of the town, near the gate of Cambron, in the Vega, not far from a convent of friars. The broken lines sufficiently mark its ample extent, whilst the massive walls attest its strength and solidity. On the other side of the river, opposite to the Alcazar, may still be seen the ruins of an aqueduct, which, passing over the Tagus, conveyed the water from the neighbouring mountain to the height of Alcazar. The existence of a Roman road is still evident near the castle of San Servanda; its Roman appellation was the Via Lata; at present it is called the Via de la Plata; it is broad, and paved with square stones.

The Jews had formerly a celebrated school contiguous to the church of Santa Maria la Blanca, on whose walls and timbers Hebrew inscriptions are still visible in large distinct characters.

Promenades. Toledo has two promenades, which are both extremely pleasant, but, unfortunately, at some distance from the town, in the valley beyond the Tagus. The first is at la Vega, on the road from Talavera de la Reyna. The other commences two hundred paces from the bridge of Alcantara, forms a noble avenue a quarter of a mile in length, and branches out to the banks of the river. In some parts of it are formed double cross walks; in others a plantation of woods and copses. At certain intervals, where the ground becomes wider, you discover three ample areas, one of which is square, and the other two circular, but all furnished with wooden benches, and two of them

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are embellished with fountains, which are often destitute of water. Much of the beauty of this spot has been derived from the inequality of the ground, which, towards the mountain side, is strait and steep. Wherever it becomes more spacious it has been planted and embellished. The trees are still young. When they have attained their full growth, this promenade will afford a delightful retreat. It is, however, liable to two objections, that of being covered with mud in the winter, and smothered with dust in the summer. It has the disadvantage also of lying at the foot of the mountain, whose craggy brow absolutely intercepts the view, and inspires rather sadness than delight.

The Tagus flows underneath the mountain on which Toledo is built; it was formerly navigable, and might again be rendered so with little trouble and expence. In 1588 boats passed from Toledo to Lisbon, and the quay, which was situated below the town, and known by the name of the Plazuela de las Barcas, is still in a perfect state. These voyages were soon interrupted, and, in the reign of Philip the Third, totally suspended.

It may be doubted how far the prosperity of Toledo would be extended by the revival of its navigation. Its manufactures are too limited to supply any branch of active traffic; and, as it produces no exportable commodities, the restoration of its quay could only afford the means of rendering it an entrepôt for the adjacent country.

Manufactures. The manufactures of Toledo were formerly various and important.

A considerable branch of commerce was supplied by the fabrication of needles and swords.

The swords were allowed to possess unrivalled excellence; they were cast in the shape peculiar to Spain, and supported their high pre-eminence till the accession of Philip the Fifth, when the French dress supplanted the Spanish habit; and these antique weapons were discarded with the rest of the na-

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national costume. From this innovation of fashion flowed other changes unfavourable to the political interests of the kingdom. The Spaniards succeeded not in their imitation of foreign weapons, and it followed as a necessary consequence, that the country which had imported the shape, should also supply the article; and none but foreign swords were held in estimation to the total destruction of that branch of national manufactures.

The woollen manufactures of Toledo were also of considerable importance. From a memorial presented to the king in 1620 and 1621, it appears that these manufactures, in conjunction with those of la Mancha, annually employed forty-five thousand quintals of wool in the fabrication of thick cloths, loom cloths, serges, and light stuffs; and that they afforded occupation to thirty-eight thousand two hundred and fifty persons. These manufactures, it is stated, were then in a declining state, there being a deficit in their ordinary revenues to the amount of 845,454 ducats.

Woollen stockings are still manufactured at Toledo. In the foregoing memorial it appears, that seven hundred thousand quintals of wool were annually consumed in that manufactory, and that seven hundred thousand pairs of stockings were fabricated in it; that it gave subsistence to sixteen thousand nine hundred persons, and produced a sum of money equivalent to 413,636 ducats.

The introduction of foreign articles at the commencement of the seventeenth century, paralyzed national industry, and, from that moment, the woollen manufacture sunk to obscurity and oblivion.

Toledo also enjoyed a flourishing traffic in fine worsted caps, which, in the middle of the nineteenth century, employed five hundred and sixty-four manufacturers. In 1621 the single parish of St. Michael contained six hundred and ninety-nine families, who were solely occupied in this labour. In 1624 the number of artizans was reduced to two hundred,

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who furnished annually five millions of caps. In 1655 this branch of commerce was confined to thirteen individuals.

The silk manufactures were equally considerable; it is easy to estimate their former importance from the loss they had sustained by the introduction of foreign merchandize. The memorial states, that the consumption of silk was materially diminished, and estimates the loss sustained by thirty-eight thousand artizans, from the interruption of their occupation, at 1,937,727 ducats. Symptoms of decay continued to increase till the middle of the sixteenth century, when every vestige of commerce was effaced.

Toledo remained in this state of listless despondence till the present archbishop made a noble effort to revive the love of industry, and to open an asylum for the tribes of mendicants, accustomed from infancy to subsist on precarious bounty. The measure adopted by this prelate, was to establish in the Alcazar various branches of manufacture, such as linen, ribbons, cloths, serges, woollen stuffs, and silk stuffs of every description. He introduced also another branch of occupation, appropriated solely to the production of sacerdotal ornaments; in 1791, there were a hundred and twelve manufactories in Toledo; ten for lawns and canvas; twelve for ribbons; fifty-five for silk; and seven for sacerdotal ornaments. At this period the indigent class employed in them amounted to six hundred people, who were instructed in various processes, and were led insensibly to acquire the useful habits of industry; they were taught to draw, to prepare the materials, to fabricate the manufacture; and each was destined to pursue some occupation suitable to his age, his inclination, and his abilities.

Within a few years the fabrication of swords has been resumed at Toledo; the place allotted to this object is a handsome edifice, a quarter of a league distant from the city, which commands the banks of the Tagus. This undertaking has hitherto been prosperous; the swords are celebrated

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lebrated for the excellence of their blades, which are of finely tempered steel.

There is also another occupation in which some of the indigent class find a frequent exercise for assiduity and adroitness; this is, collecting the gold which is sometimes deposited on the sands by the waters of the Tagus.

Celebrated Men. Under the Goths, Toledo was the country of St. Hermenegilde, St. Lucadia, of St. Casil, and St. Ildefonso, a prelate no less eminent for his acuteness in theological disquisitions, than his exemplary virtues. Under the Arabs, this city produced the botanist Joleus Joli, the mathematician Abraham el Zurakee, the astrologer Ali Albucazem. In subsequent ages it gave birth to Alphonso de Andrada, an ascetic theologian of the seventeenth century; to the celebrated civilian Didace de Covarrubias; to Christopher Roxas, who wrote on tactics and fortifications; to Francis Hernandez, whose works on natural history were published in 1615; to the poet Balthazar Eloi de Medinilla; and the historian Jerome Roman de la Higuera. Toledo was also the native place of John Baptiste Monegra, an architect of the seventeenth century; and of Blaise del Prado, an artist of the preceding age, who, though he was not of the first rank in painting, possessed considerable merit for accuracy of design, permanence of colour, and softness of expression. To Toledo also belongs the honour of having produced two distinguished females, who were the ornaments of their sex and country; these were the two sisters, Angela and Louisa Sige, who were of French extraction; the eldest cultivated the sister arts, music and poetry; she published a scientific treatise on the former, and by her poems evinced her familiar acquaintance with polite literature; the younger sister had made extraordinary proficiency in the oriental languages, and addressed a letter to pope Paul the Third, written in Greek,

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Hebrew, Arabic, and Syriac, a sufficient memorial of her indefatigable application and erudite attainments.

Inns. There are several inns and posadas at Toledo; that of the Sacred Blood of Jesus, called also El Parader and La Fonda del Arzobispo, is a handsome edifice, and one of the best inns in Spain; it is large and spacious, and ease and comfort are here found to coalesce with grandeur and magnificence; it presents two large courts, both of them surrounded by wide and handsome galleries, opened in the manner of a piazza, and supported on columns of free-stone; the kitchens are spacious and convenient; the stables numerous and well arranged; the staircase superb; the apartments judiciously disposed, light, neat, airy, and in sufficient number to afford accommodation to fifty or sixty gentlemen. This edifice was lately erected at the expence of the archbishop, who in this, and every other undertaking which has distinguished his meritorious life, was solely actuated by motives of beneficence, and by his generous and almost intemperate zeal for public good. This inn is kept by a Catalan; the attendance is as prompt as correct, every thing is performed with neatness, order, and propriety, although the charge is very moderate.

Manners and Customs. The situation of Toledo is not calculated to render it an agreeable residence; to the east, north, and west, it is bounded by the Tagus; and although placed on a craggy mountain is inclosed within a narrow glen, and surrounded on every side by bare and rugged mountains, of the most dreary and ungracious aspect. During the summer the burning rays of the sun are intensely reflected from their summits; the heat which has been thus absorbed by the valley, sometimes exhales from the earth in the meteoric form of a fiery cloud. There are neither wells nor fountains to produce a supply of water; this first article of human comfort is procured from a considerable distance, and regularly conveyed on asses to the town,

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town, where it is sometimes preserved in the houses four or five months. The streets are narrow and crooked, steep, difficult, ill-paved, and excessively fatiguing. The town boasts not of squares or spectacles, and has no place of public resort; there are few gentry among its residents; its commerce is circumscribed to a few shops; its grandees are lawyers; priests, friars, and students, constitute its principal population. Destitute of all pretensions to beauty or majesty; without society, or the amusements which supply its place, it is impossible that it should be otherwise than sad, dreary, tiresome, and disagreeable.

The promenades, which have been formed in the glen, are too far from the town to afford much enjoyment to such as are not provided with carriages. To arrive at the spot you have to traverse an ill-paved road, to descend many steep streets, and to endure no common share of fatigue. But, to return to the town, is still more arduous; you have then to pursue a still ruder path, to make yet greater exertions, till, finally, not without some risk, you regain the summit of the mountain.

Living is cheap at Toledo. Houses are on reasonable terms; beef is sold at twopence halfpenny per pound, and bread at twopence. The wages of artizans are four reals per diem in winter, and four and a half in the summer. Such at least was the average price which prevailed in 1799.

Itinerary from Toledo to Aranjuez, seven Leagues.

Toledo.	
Valdecaba, venta	2 leagues.
Villamejor, venta	2
Aranjuez	3

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Leaving Toledo by the gate of Alcantara, and the bridge of that name, you wind along the beautiful promenade, on a road which has the disadvantage of being dusty in summer and dirty in winter.

At the distance of a league and a half from hence you arrive at a plain watered by the Tagus; it is, in some parts, rude, and in others highly cultivated. Here are, however, no trees but such as line the banks of the river. In a quarter of an hour you arrive at the Venta de Valdecaba, where you enter on a delicious pasturage, solely designed for the royal herd.

To the left, on the opposite side of the Tagus, you perceive the villages of Mocejon, and Villaseca, and, at no great distance, the palace of Aceja, standing on an eminence; it was erected, or at least repaired and enlarged by Philip the Second; it is properly a hunting seat, belonging to the king, and, though not large, is well built.

Having continued in this fertile track for two leagues, you arrive at Villamejor, where you discover a handsome modern edifice, which belongs to his majesty, and is appropriated to the use of the herds already mentioned, and to the accommodation of the herdsmen. The house presents twelve windows towards the road. In the centre is a projecting porch leading to the chapel; it contains about a hundred inhabi-

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habitants, and is furnished with a handsome stable, in which are lodged two hundred horses.

The chapel, which supplies the place of a parochial church, is regularly attended by a priest, who performs in it all the duties annexed to his sacred office; it is a small square edifice, neat and plain, but exciting interest by its extreme simplicity. The altar is of Corinthian architecture; it is adorned with three pictures, one of which represents the Virgin encompassed by angels. The second is a holy Theresa; and the third a St. Francis Xavier, preaching to the infidels. They are all by Amiconi, and do not disgrace the reputation of that distinguished artist.

To the left, on the opposite banks of the Tagus, between the mouths of the Xarama and the Guadarrama, you perceive the village of Anover, which is an object of curiosity from the nature of its soil, and the singular aspect of those subterraneous hovels in which the wretched peasants find a habitation. These are absolutely excavated from the earth, and are raised in the depth of ravines. They have, however, each their chimney, and have the recommendation of being warm in the winter, and cool in the summer; nor are they ever liable to humidity. The soil is a composition of gypseous sand and clay, intersected by deep ravines,

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ravines, in which gypsum is discovered in horizontal strata, imbedded in the clay, which is hard and polished, intermixed with gypsum, which is sometimes exhibited in a chrystallized form, and sometimes is found solid, and striated in lamina, or in the configuration of stalactites. Here is also a white earth, which at night becomes humid, and in that state assumes a deep colour; it is capable of yielding saltpetre. Two saline mineral springs are discovered in a ravine not far from the village.

On leaving Villamejor, the road becomes broad, firm, and handsome; it still pursues the same direction through rich pastures, equally fertile with those already described; but the country is still uncloathed with wood, and it is only on the banks of the Tagus that any trees are visible.

At the distance of a league from Villamejor, the plain suddenly opens to the left, and discloses an immense range of prospect. The eye dwells with delight on the delicious valley, watered by the Tagus. The earth is covered with a verdant carpet, and shaded by thick mantling foliage, whilst the scene is closed by the opposite mountains, whose bare rugged aspect produces a striking contrast to the smiling fertility of the interjacent fields.

In about a quarter of an hour the road runs in a straight line, from which it never deviates,

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to Aranjuez; it is lined on each side by double rows of poplars. In some places these trees are sufficiently numerous to form bowers or alleys, which relieve the monotony of the road, and singularly contribute to its beauty and amenity.

It is impossible to contemplate, without painful reflections, a country which, however beautiful or extensive, is almost wholly useless. In traversing for five leagues a rich and fruitful soil, we discover neither houses nor population. We see nothing but pasture, from which the public derives no benefit, and the king receives no revenue. On the contrary, a considerable expence is incurred for the maintenance of the herdsmen superintending the cattle. Yet these pastures are in themselves the source of immense wealth, and were they occupied by different individuals, capable of bestowing on them proper care and cultivation, they might produce an accession of revenue to the king, instead of being appropriated to the exclusive enjoyment of his kine and oxen.

Having travelled for two hours from Villamejor, you approach a large gate, ornamented with two columns of the Corinthian order, which announce your entrance to the territory of Aranjuez.

The face of the country here assumes a more picturesque expression; the same double alley con-

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continues to embellish the borders of the road; the trees are more diversified and numerous, and not only form alleys of every description, but are frequently disposed in shrubbery walks, groves, and little woods, which extend a deep umbrageous foliage.

On one side you behold fields, on the other orchards and kitchen gardens; this moment you discover a rude spot, and the next contemplate a scene in which nature has been rivalled by art; your attention is alternately attracted by a variety of charming objects, every thing is smiling and agreeable, and announces the vicinity of a cultivated district. To the right you behold a ridge of mountains, richly clothed with wood, and in their aspect at once beautiful and romantic.

Having proceeded an hour through this delightful country, you enter the town of Aranjuez, where the first object that presents itself is the royal palace. With one rapid glance the eye embraces a variety of scenery, the effect of which is strikingly picturesque; numerous edifices and beautiful plantations; spires and turrets, mingled with forest trees, still towering above them, and raising a lofty dome of umbrageous foliage.

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ARANJUEZ,

The name of which is by some derived from Ara Jovis, in intimation that there was formerly in this place a temple dedicated to Jupiter, is situated in a valley which lies on the left bank of the Tagus, and is abundantly watered by that river, beyond the mouth of the Xarama. It was originally erected for a royal hunting seat by Charles the First, and enlarged by Charles the Second; considerable additions were made to it by the successors of those princes; under Philip the Fifth and Ferdinand the Sixth it received yet greater improvements; Charles the Third repaired it, and Charles the Fourth annexed to it the garden, which now forms one of its principal ornaments.

In this hunting seat, which gradually became a royal mansion, the court is now regularly established during three months of the year; it is customary for the monarch to visit this elegant retreat in the spring. The air is pure and salubrious, and the oppressive cares of government are agreeably relieved by rural scenery and domestic amusements.

The presence of the sovereign attracts to this place all the officers of his court, foreign ambassadors, persons occupied with political negotiation, and an immense crowd of individuals,

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dividuals, whether drawn by curiosity or idleness, impelled with the hope of preferment, or enticed by the love of pleasure.

In this manner Aranjuez has risen to be a place of some importance, and now contains a population of nine or ten thousand souls; but its existence is evidently dependant on the court. At the king's approach it it full of activity, animation and gaiety; at his departure the impulse is lost, and it is no longer a scene of pleasure, but a desert.

The town is laid out in the Dutch style, on a plan suggested by the Marquis Grimaldi, at his return from Holland. The streets, though few in number, occupy a considerable space; they are long and broad, and invariably straight; the houses are strictly uniform, but embellished with simplicity and taste; some of the streets are planted with trees, and afford promenades that in any city in Europe would be called magnificent.

In this small town is comprised whatever is useful or agreeable; we find in it noble streets, commodious houses, handsome squares, a market for provisions, and excellent inns, with no other fault than that of being excessively dear. Here are numerous promenades, well frequented; a rotunda for the bull-fight; a theatre, which is not inferior to any in Madrid; a play every day during the residence of the court;

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court; coffee-houses in every quarter; tradesmen of every description; two bridges over the Tagus and the Xarama; a parochial church two Franciscan monasteries; a governor; and a state major.

Squares. St. Anthony's-square is spacious and magnificent, and presents itself to the traveller immediately on his arrival from Madrid. It appears rather long, and of considerable extent; it is open on that side contiguous to the avenue of Madrid, where is a large and beautiful circular fountain, constructed of marble, which, in addition to a great variety of ornaments, is surmounted by a statue of white marble, as large as life; on both sides it is embellished by a gallery, projecting in the manner of a piazza, which runs along its length, and on the south side assumes a semicircular form. In this district is placed St. Antony's church, which forms a noble termination to the square; a piazza, opening by five arcades, presents itself, projecting in the shape of a horse-shoe; it is embellished by six pilasters, and is crowned by a terrace, and balustrade of free-stone; behind the piazza rises a circular dome, terminating in an octagonal cupola, and adorned with a correspondent balustrade. The whole of this structure produces a fine effect in contemplating the square from its principal entrance; but it has a greater accession of beauty from the mountains, half a league south of Aranjuez, whose majestic summits just rise above the sacred dome. Formerly the sides of these mountains were bare and desolate; they are now clothed with trees, which, though they are still young, will one day form a perspective the more picturesque, as they appear to start from the very base of the square they are destined to embellish.

Edifices. In the parochial church of Aranjuez there is nothing remarkable; that of the Franciscan friars exhibits good taste, and a construction conformable to the principles of

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of correct architecture; it was built from the plans of Sebatini; the façade is flanked by two small towers, adorned with columns and pilasters of the Doric order. The same character prevails in the interior, where are several good modern pictures from John Baptist Tiepolo. In the church of St. Antony, regularity has been sacrificed to the embellishment of the square in which it stands; the first object that presents itself is an hexagonal vestibule, which opens by six arcades, and is supported by pilasters and surmounted with a gallery, invested by a balcony formed of iron palisades; the dome that rises over its summit is wholly destitute of ornament. From thence you enter the chapel, which is a small square edifice, with no other embellishment than one altar and the solitary picture that adorns it.

Aranjuez has several other public edifices, such as the theatre, the palace of the dowager queen, the king's stables, which are lofty and handsome, and situated on the banks of the Xarama.

The king's palace is not distinguished by grandeur or elegance; and under all the changes and improvements it has received at different eras, still retains an appearance suited to a private residence rather than a magnificent court; it presents a body and two wings, built of brick, adorned with pilasters and a balustrade of free-stone.

In the interior of this church there is nothing to attract the observation of connoisseurs; it is, however, embellished with elegant simplicity, and contains some admirable paintings; in particular the fresco paintings of Amiconi, on the ceiling of an apartment that was used as a dining-room by Charles the Fourth, previous to his accession to the throne. In the Gabinete Antiguo there are some pictures from mythological subjects, by Jordan; and four landscapes, by John Baptist del Mozo; the roof and friezes of the same apartments are also covered with fresco paintings. The major-domo's hall contains six pictures on allegorical and mythological subjects,

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by Jordan; that of Orpheus, surrounded by animals, is entitled to particular commendation. In the chapel are two pictures, a St. Antony of Padua, by Giacinto, and an Assumption of the Virgin, by Titian.

Promenades. The promenades and gardens are highly diversified and beautiful, and form the grand attraction to Aranjuez.

Each of the avenues leading from Madrid and Toledo forms an agreeable promenade; the principal alleys extend a league; but these are diversified by other alleys, which cross one another at different spaces in the manner of stars; they are all shaded by thick lofty tufted trees, which form a screen, impenetrable to the sun.

There is another promenade, equally beautiful, which commences at the extremity of the bridge of boats, along the road to Madrid; it is extremely agreeable, though of small extent, and leads to a large covered square, embellished with a flower-bank, and encircled by thick trees.

The two streets, which correspond with the space intervening between the bridge of boats and St. Antony's-square, form two beautiful and spacious promenades; on each side is a row of houses, of an uniform appearance, a broad alley runs between the two streets; on each side is a smooth terrace, within a green paling, and overhung by lofty umbrageous trees.

The calle de la Reyna, constructed along the garden del Principe, is the most fashionable promenade; it consists of a principal alley and two cross alleys, so screened by trees, as even at noon to afford a cool delicious shade. This promenade, after reaching a league, terminates at a bridge, which has been raised over the Tagus; at three different places it opens into a beautiful and spacious lawn, planted with trees, and surrounded by stone benches. The lofty trees which overhang this promenade are evidently of patriarchal antiquity; their venerable age is attested by the

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immense circumference of their trunks, and the thickness of their luxuriant foliage.

There is a parterre, the gate of which opens at the entrance of Aranjuez, on the road from Madrid, which is placed behind and to the east of the royal palace; it is laid out in various borders, arranged with much taste, and presenting a succession of the most beautiful flowers. In the centre is a fountain, with its copious bason and a statue of Neptune, surrounded by trees, whose regular symmetrical form is most tenaciously preserved. The Tagus flows through this parterre from the north, where, precipitating its waters, it forms a beautiful cascade.

From this parterre you enter the Island garden, so called because it is surrounded by the Tagus; it is situated to the north of the royal palace, and is distinguished by the number and the elegant variety of its fountains.

Of these, the first and largest is called the fountain of Hercules; it is formed in the centre of a large bason, within an iron balustrade, on which have been made four avenues of free-stone, disposed in the shape of a cross, and inclosed within smaller balustrades. To this fountain there are several cuvettes; the largest is surrounded by statues of white marble; that in the centre supports an Hercules combating the hydra; the statues are poorly executed.

Beyond, and to the top of this fountain, the Tagus forms another cascade, (more beautiful than the former,) which has a double fall.

The fountain of the Dolphins is still larger; the cuvette supports a statue of Apollo, around it is a large bason, the sides of which are loaded with bass-reliefs, representing the labours of Hercules. Eight children, grouped with the dolphins, are exhibited at the eight surfaces of the principal bason, which is octagonal; the bass-reliefs have some merit, and the figures of the children and the dolphins are well executed.

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The fountain of Don John of Austria is more simple; on the cuvette stands a Venus, who does not rise above mediocrity; there are children, rather better executed, placed on the pedestal.

The fountain of Neptune is adorned with the statues of that divinity, armed with his trident, and drawn by tritons in a car-like shell; it is surrounded by six pedestals, which support six groups of bronze, of the middling size, representing a Neptune, invested with the trident, on a shell drawn by tritons; a Ceres, on a car drawn by lions; a Juno, in the act of hurling the thunder on the giants; a Jupiter, in precisely the same attitude; the same Juno; and the same Ceres. These groups are beautiful and well executed, and are attributed to Alexander Algardi, who died in 1654.

The fountain de la Espina, or de las Harpias, consists of a pedestal placed in the centre of the bason, having a column on which is placed a cuvette; the cuvette supports the statue of a young man, who sits with one leg thrown across the knee, extracting a thorn from his foot; this piece is cast from an antique statue which is in the Capitol at Rome, and is at present deposited in the Museum of Napoleon. To this fountain is appended a square bason; near the four angles are raised four columns of blue and white marble, which each support a harpy of white marble.

The fountain of Bacchus consists chiefly in a cuvette, on which is a statue of this god, seated on a cask, of a juvenile aspect, but most revolting corpulence.

The fountain of the Tritons is the most elegantly embellished; it consists of a large bason, supporting three tritons, which each bear a rose on the shoulders; in the centre is a pedestal, and above it a column surrounded by three statues of nymphs, five feet in height, separated by groups of monster heads, fruits, and other fantastic ornaments. A beautiful cuvette is placed on this column,

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adorned with sirens, who assail the dolphins by their fins and ears; another smaller cuvette is raised above; between the two are interspersed two winged figures, grouped with two columns, whose capitals are surmounted by monster-heads. This fountain rises to twenty feet.

In general the sculpture is but indifferent; some of the pieces are totally destitute of merit, and others are merely copies; the fountain of the Tritons, indicates the best taste. These fountains and their accessary ornaments are of marble, with the exception of a few statues cast in bronze, and exhibit a variety of cascades.

These fountains are in the centre of large areas, either circular or quadrangular, hexagonal or octagonal, with marble couches; they are encircled by lofty trees, whose embowering foliage shields them completely, even from a noon-day sun. These delicious spots are much frequented, and at all times in the day you may find there people of every class, who seek an asylum from the oppressive heats which prevail during the royal residence at Aranjuez.

The garden presents an almost infinite variety of alleys and cross alleys, which run in every possible direction; it is luxuriously embellished with wood, and filled with lofty forest trees, shrubberies, groves, arbours, and young plantations. One of these nursery-grounds, running in a straight line, extends five hundred feet, and is only broken by the squares in which the fountains are situated.

The Tagus flows round the garden, and it is impossible not to admire the exquisite art and taste with which it is rendered the scene of perpetual beauty and embellishment.

Beyond it is a kitchen-garden, chiefly remarkable for the assiduous and successful culture bestowed on esculent vegetables and choice fruits.

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The garden del Principe, (so called from having been laid out by Charles the Fourth, when he was only Prince of Asturias,) occupies the intervening space from the calle de la Reyna to the Tagus, and stretches from the point at which this river makes a bend to the west, to the demarcation of the first rotunda towards the east.

This garden opens to the south, on the calle de la Reyna, by three gates variously embellished; on the east it points to the fields, and on the north and west it commands the Tagus. A thick umbrageous alley of trees runs parallel with this promenade; it is crossed by three other alleys, which correspond with the three principal gates; on each side they are attended by counter alleys, planted with thick trees, which completely screen it from the sun. The first of these crosses the garden in its full breadth, and terminates by a parterre inclosed within iron rails.

In this parterre are three pavilions, so disposed as to form a triangle. The figure of a river, cast in bronze, is in the centre of the bason; the four angles of which are embellished by four groups of allegorical figures, cast in bronze, and raised on pedestals; a small rotunda separates the parterres from the pavilion; it is embellished with ten marble busts, nine of which are antiques, the tenth is that of one of the monarchs, descended from the House of Austria, who have reigned in Spain.

A wood of forest trees, thick and tufted, commences on one side of the parterre, and lengthens for a considerable distance to the south and west.

A new spectacle here presents itself; you perceive the Tagus, whose approach is guarded by two batteries, of twenty pieces of cannon each. The shore is lined with boats; ropes and sails and masts are raised in air; flags and banderols are seen streaming in the wind; the water is covered with armed frigates and elegant barges; the first of which presents to the sovereign an image

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of the manœuvres and evolutions performed on more serious occasions in his navy; and the latter are destined to procure the queen the pleasure of a marine excursion.

The alleys in this garden are numerous; they run in every possible direction, some in straight, others in oblique lines, some are transversal, and other tortuous; they frequently cross each other, and are completely encanopied by lofty trees.

A thousand varied objects are presented in quick succession to the view; alleys, nursery-grounds, flowery-parterres, kitchen-gardens, wooded lawns, shrubberies, groves, wildernesses, and orchards; on one side the scene is wild and rude; on the other every object announces cultivation and care, and bespeaks the ascendant of human genius in rendering nature subservient to the laws of art, and the dictates of imagination. At every step you discover some new attraction. Many exotics are found among the trees.

In the morning the garden is the royal promenade, and is then closed on strangers; but in the afternoon it is constantly open to the public, and numerous circles are sometimes formed in its delicious shades. Aranjuez is still susceptible of augmented improvement; there is, perhaps, no place in the world better calculated to form a fine park; in its present state, it may, however, be fairly placed before the royal residences of other countries for the reigning monarch; it will have the recommendation of recalling to him frequently the enchanting aspect of Morfontaine.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT, RELATIVE PARTICULARLY TO NEW CASTILE.

Population. The population of New Castile was once much more numerous, at present it bears no proportion to its extent.

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That during the last century it has been sensibly diminished, is sufficiently attested by isolated houses, the fragments of once flourishing villages; by the chapels, once attached to numerous parishes, of which no other memorial now remains than the registers of their former existence; there are a hundred and ninety-five of these chapels, that perpetuate the names of hamlets which have long been left without a single inhabitant.

In many of the places still tenanted, the population has been sensibly diminished. In the sixteenth century the city of Toledo had two hundred thousand inhabitants, it is now reduced to twenty thousand; the city of Alarcan, which at the same epoch included six hundred families, now contains but two hundred; Casarrubios is reduced from a thousand people to five hundred; and Puebla, which, at the commencement of the eighteenth century, had ten thousand people, is at present occupied by about twelve hundred.

The existing population of New Castile, according to the estimates of 1787 and 1788, without including the monks, amounts to nine hundred and forty thousand six hundred and forty-nine persons, distributed in the following manner:

Province of Cuenca	266,182
Province of Guadalaxara	114,379
Province of Madrid	58,943
City of Madrid	156,672
Province of Toledo	334,425
District of Aranjuez	2,653
District of Prado	611
District of St. Ildefonso	4,331
District of San Lorenzo, or the Escurial	2,453
Total	940,649

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In this number are included

Parish Priests	767
Secular Priests	4,676
Monks	5,949
Nuns	2,845
Nobles	12,687
Advocates	1,032
Writers	1,091
Students	2,859
Domestics	46,742

Agriculture. The soil of New Castile, with the exception of a few mountainous tracks and isolated spots, is rich and fertile, but it is parched and arid. Little advantage is drawn from the numerous rivers which flow through it, and which are capable of supplying a copious and beneficial irrigation.

On every side you meet with plains and valleys, either intersected or invested by rivers, whose waters have never been conveyed to the interior provinces. A large part of Alcaria, or rather the immense plain between Guadalaxara and Alcala de Henarez, and that which extends beyond it, might easily be irrigated by the waters of the Henarez. The Albercho offers the same advantage to the plain of Talavera de la Reyna; and, in conjunction with the Tagus, might fertilize the arid plains which surround Brugel, Cazalegas, Lucillos, Monte Aragon, and Cebolla. The river Guadarrama crosses, for no beneficial purpose, the deep valley which divides Toledo from Rielbo. The pastures which enrich the country between Toledo and Aranjuez, would be rendered still more valuable by the waters of the Tagus. Canals drawn from this river might water the plain of Cienpozuelos. In the seventeenth century, it was proposed, by Michael Alvarez Ozorio, to employ these means for the irrigation of sixty thousand fanegas of land; and it was demon-

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monstrated by his son in 1687, that even the little river Narez was adequate to the fertilization of eighty thousand fanegas. Notwithstanding these proofs, things still remain in the same state, and the era of improvement is, probably, far distant.

The land in New Castile requires nothing but moisture to be adapted to every branch of culture. At present it is almost exclusively confined to the growth of wheat; to this is added a small quantity of barley; wine, hemp, flax, and saffron. In some cantons oil is produced. The gardens are not often luxuriant; few fruit trees are found in them, and the plantation of trees is universally neglected.

You may traverse an immense district without finding a single tree; you rarely discover any woods. From the entrance of New Castile to Guadalaxara, the wide plain which leads from this town to Alcala de Henarez, and that which extends from thence to Madrid, are completely bare. For several leagues round the capital the country presents no foliage. The plain through which the road runs from Portugal is equally naked, and in a track of forty leagues from Aranjuez to the frontiers of Valencia, the eye scarcely ever reposes on verdure or foliage. There are, however, some particular spots privileged above the rest, where trees are cultivated with care and success. They embellish the plain of Requena, and in general expand their branches by the banks of rivers.

In some places the trees are perfectly indigenous. Many of the mountains of New Castile are clothed with pines and oaks of different species. The mountains of Cuenca are in this respect eminently distinguished. The quercus coccifera is found near Flores. Woods of green oak are in the environs of Torrija. Trees of the same species, but of a smaller growth, flourish in the vicinity of Villagordo and Cebolla. There are poplar woods at Talavera de la Reyna. Willows, poplars, and elms, delight in the banks of rivers.

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In this province you often meet with lands totally rude and neglected, but possessing all the latent principles of vigour and fecundity. Such are the lands commencing at the entrance of New Castile, on the Aragonian frontier, and extending for twenty leagues to Torrija. Such also is the track between the Bravo and the river Albercho. These improvable wastes are also frequently observed in traversing the road from Madrid and Aranjuez to the confines of Valencia. Of the same character is much of the country near Alcorcon, on the road from Madrid to Talavera de la Reyna, as well as between Aranjuez and Toledo.

Cultivation, however, prevails in many cantons of New Castile. Several of them are planted with olives; and there are some to which nothing but wood appears wanting. In this number we may place the ample plain that lies between Guadalaxara and Alcala de Henarez, and which, from Madrid to the entrance of the valley of Aranjuez, includes a space of six leagues; the little plain between Toledo and the Venta of Valdecaba; the plain between Alcala de Henarez and the territory of Hita, and another plain of calcareous earth, on the summit of those hills that encircle Alcala de Henarez. These are all highly cultivated, and afford almost every vegetable production but trees. The country lying between the villages of Hita and Flores is equally good. The same character may be given of the soil between Cebolla and the bridge of Albercho, the district of Talavera de la Reyna, the lands of Noyes, Bravo, and Santa Olalla. This track of country is crowned with olive-trees, at Santa Olalla there is a forest of them, whose number is estimated at a hundred thousand. The district of Torrelaguno, which is watered by the river Malacuero, is adorned with gardens, vineyards, and olive-trees. The rich plain of Requena presents a delightful scene of cultivation; but no spot vies in beauty with the delicious vale of Aranjuez.

Wheat

Wheat constitutes the staple produce of New Castile; it is yielded in abundance in the Alcarria, the vallies of Terre, of Tortuera, of Valdemoro, and Aranjuez; the environs of Madrid, of Cebolla, of Manosa, of Cerindote, of Carmona, of Torrijos. On the plains of Grajunejo, Trijuequo, Torrija, Requena, and Talavera de la Reyna, the harvests are still more luxriant. The same plenty prevails also in the vallies lying beneath the Sierra de Cuenca. It is computed that the produce of these cantons would alone be adequate to the consumption of New Castile.

There is little land in this province which might not be adapted to the culture of the olive; yet there are many plains where this tree is never visible. In some cantons, however, olive plantations are equally flourishing and numerous; as in the country of Alamo, of Camarena, Maqueda, Santa Olalla, Cebolla, Erustes; the plain between Cebolla and the Guadarrama, towards Toledo; the plains of Requena and Talavera de la Reyna; the valley of Valdemoro, and the southern parts of New Castile. The most considerable are found towards Maqueda, between Cebolla and the Guadarrama, towards Valdemoro and the plain of Talavera.

To the olive and oil of New Castile may be applied the same observation which has been made respecting the olive and oil of Aragon; the olive is equally good; the oil equally execrable. In both these provinces the same method is pursued in gathering the olives and extracting the oil; but, by the proper alterations in the preparation of this article, the oil produced in both countries would be equally delicious.

The vine is cultivated at Alamo, Camarena, Santa Olalla, the vicinity of Talavera de la Reyna, at Cebolla, in the vale of Valdemoro, the plain of Requena, Torrelaguna, and Queixigar. In the vicinity of Cebolla vines are supported in a singular manner. The stakes are inserted in clods of earth, round and isolated, and raised two feet, or two feet and a half, on a layer of

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of sandy earth, leaving between each of them a space of three feet.

The wine of New Castile, though good, is almost always thick, and sometimes hard, a fault that is, perhaps, attributable to the process employed in its preparation. It is certainly inferior to the wine of Aragon and the southern parts of Spain; but, in general, is preferred at Madrid to that of la Mancha.

The culture of flax is confined to some particular parts of New Castile, although well adapted to a considerable part of the province. At present it is principally an object of care in the plain of Requena.

Hemp is produced in greater quantity; particular attention has been paid to it in the Alcarria, where it might easily be rendered an important branch of agriculture. In the country of Huete, however, it is found in yet greater abundance, and produces on an average the yearly quantity of five or six thousand arobas.

Fruits are rare in New Castile, notwithstanding the richness of the soil, and the facility it offers for irrigation. In general fruit trees are thinly scattered over some particular districts; they are most numerous in a part of Alcarria and the plain of Requena. This province is, indeed, chiefly supplied with fruits from Valencia and Aragon, a circumstance the more remarkable, as the soil is admirably adapted to this species of culture.

Many of the mountains and vallies are clothed with luxuriant pastures. Some of the richest are found in the plains of the Sierra de Cuenca. The same description applies to the spacious plain between Aranjuez and Toledo, and to several spots near the Tagus, the Xarama, the Guadarrama, the Cabriel, the Jucar, and Albercho, which are all covered with flocks and herds.

Numerous colonies of bees are discovered in this province, particularly in the Alcarria, and on the mountains of Cuenca, the

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the honey of which is pronounced to be the best in Spain. The quantity of honey and wax varies in different years. The mountains of Cuenca produced, in 1773, three thousand three hundred and thirty-four arobas, or eight hundred and thirty-three quintals and a half of honey, and a hundred and fifty-six arobas of wax; nor would it be difficult to give these articles more extent and importance.

The production of saffron is an object of real utility, from the great demand made for it in Spain, particularly in the Castilian provinces; it is planted in various parts of New Castile, as Bonaco, San Clemente, Valera, Jorquera, Motilla, Huete, and almost universally on the road between Madrid and Cuenca. In some places the consumption is rather diminished than augmented. Huete once produced forty, and now produces but five quintals.

It may be proper to explain the process employed in the preparation of saffron. In the month of September the roots are planted, which are of the size and shape of a nut. These begin, in the middle of October, to throw off white shoots of a tubular form, from each of which three or four slender stalks shoot forth; these bear a small blue flower, which expands to the sun, and blooms for fifteen days. The flowers are gathered in the morning, and care is taken to extract the saffron before they wither, which happens soon; they are dried at the fire, or by the sun. Those that are dried by the fire lose four-fifths, and those that are dried in the sun lose but three-fourths of their volume and weight.

Manufactures. New Castile was formerly distinguished from the other provinces of Spain by the extent and richness of its manufactures.

In the city of Toledo there were various manufactories for needles, swords, and red woollen caps. A considerable number of looms were employed in the fabrication of woollen stockings, of which seven hundred thousand pairs were annually

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nually produced; seven thousand quintals of wool consumed, and sixteen thousand nine hundred persons supplied with constant occupation. The various manufactures of flannels, cloths, and stuffs, consumed yearly forty-five thousand quintals of wool, and gave employment to thirty-eight thousand four hundred and eighty-four persons.

The city of Cuenca was equally celebrated for its manufactures of green and blue cloth, which were transported to Turkey and the coasts of Africa, exclusive of camelots, serge, coarse cloths, and woollens. The colours employed in these manufactures were excellent. Michael Caxa de Leruela, who wrote in the year 1600 his Restauracion de la Abundancia de Espana, informs us, that, in the sixteenth century, the quantity of wool prepared for the loom amounted to sixty-two thousand five hundred quintals of wool; and that of this twelve thousand five hundred quintals were subjected to the process of dying.

It is, however, probable, that this flattering picture of prosperity exaggerated the truth. Industry has never been equally exalted or equally depressed. If commerce declined in the provinces of Castile, in Aragon it has advanced. These changes have originated in various causes, independent of the general character of society, and may, perhaps, be traced to the aggrandizement of Spain, and the discovery of America.

It cannot be denied, that the manufactures of Castile disappeared at the commencement of the seventeenth century, but they had never been highly important; and, during the last sixty years, have been successfully re-established. Ferdinand the Fourth was the first who directed his efforts to this laudable object, and, by his judicious interposition, raised the province from an abject state of indolence and poverty. Charles the Third pursued those beneficial principles his brother had established; his son, Charles the Fourth, gave them his most cordial adoption and protection,

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and afforded them that steady support best calculated to accelerate the progress of industry, and conciliate the spirit of commerce.

The woollen manufactures of New Castile are the most numerous and important. Cloths are fabricated at Toledo, at Chinchon, at Brihuega, at Guadalaxara, and Valdemoro; woollen stuffs at Brihuega and Guadalaxara; serges, stuffs, and flannels, at Toledo and Cuenca. The cloths of Brihuega are of an excellent quality; those of Guadalaxara are still superior to them; in particular the cloth of Vigonia. There are twenty-eight looms at Toledo, forty at Guasmenia, a hundred at Brihuega, and six hundred and fifty-six at Guadalaxara.

In New Castile there are three considerable manufactures for silks and gildings established at Toledo, Requena, and Talavera de la Reyna. In all these places are fabricated plain and figured velvets, of mixed colours, and embroidered with gold. There are also taffetas, satins, silk serges, silk stuffs, gold and silver stuffs, and silk ribbons. At Talavera silk stockings are made. There are eight hundred looms at Requena, a hundred and fifty at Toledo, and three hundred and sixty-six at Talavera, in which there is an annual consumption of a hundred thousand pounds of silk, four thousand marks of silver, and seventy marks of gold. Gold and silver laces, and fringes, are also fabricated in the village of Cervera, contiguous to Talavera. There are twelve mills, in which the various operations of twisting and winding the silk are performed with equal neatness and celerity.

Little scope has hitherto been given in this province to the fabrication of linen-cloth. There are a few weavers scattered through the different villages, who produce a small quantity of household linen; but, properly speaking, there are only two manufactories for this article, neither of which is important; one of them is in the alcazar of Toledo, and employs but ten looms; the other is at the castle of St. Ilde-

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Ildefonso; it was established in 1782 by Charles the Third, and keeps twenty looms at work, exclusive of two large machines for fulling and cleaning the cloth.

The other branches of manufacture in New Castile, consist of the calicoes of Siguenza; the beer of Madrid; the ribbons, laces, caps, and silk, cotton, and worsted stockings, of Valdemoro; the hats of Guadalaxara, Madrid, and Talavera de la Reyna; the pikes and swords of Toledo; the soft soap of Talavera de la Reyna; the hard soap of Ontigola, in the vicinity of Aranjuez; the delf-ware at Talavera and Puente del Arzobispo; the saltpetre at Anover and Madrid; the porcelain, inlaid marble, and tapestries, of Madrid; the cutlery wares of Mora. In addition to these, there is a manufactory for paper at some distance from Cuenca; and, near the Carthusian convent of Paular, another for painted paper at Madrid, and a glass-house at St. Ildefonso. There is also a royal manufactory for mirrors carried on at the king's expence, an account of which has been given in another place.

Commerce. The trade of New Castile is almost wholly passive; it furnishes few articles for exportation, but receives many from the adjacent provinces; it produces scarcely a sufficient quantity of wheat, oil, and wine, for its own consumption, and is frequently indebted to Valencia and Aragon for supplies of fruits, pulse, and esculent vegetables.

A small quantity of the silk, fabricated at Requena and Talavera de la Reyna, is sent to Madrid, but it is undersold by the French silks and those manufactured in Catalonia and Valencia. Some of the stuffs are carried to Seville and to Cadiz, and are from thence transported to America.

The cloths and woollens of Guadalaxara are good, but inferior to those of France and England, which are sold at nearly the same price. They have also to contend with the cloths of Alcoy, in the kingdom of Valencia, and with those

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those of Terassa, in Catalonia. The latter are, indeed, of an inferior quality, but have the recommendation of being offered at a much lower price.

The other manufactures of New Castile are scarcely adequate to the demands of the province. It is indebted to other districts for various articles of use and ornament, of comfort and luxury. Here and there is a rich city, that owes its prosperity to particular circumstances. Requena, Talavera, and Guadalaxara, subsist by their manufactures; Alcala by its university; Toledo by the clergy, and Madrid by the court.

Yet, in this province, of which the general character is poverty, is comprised every thing calculated to produce opulence and splendor; a fertile soil that demands but to be cultivated; a climate that invites industry; and rivers that fully indicate the means of obtaining plenty by a copious and beneficent irrigation.

It might be expected, that the six economical societies, established at Madrid, Talavera de la Reyna, Chinchon, Cuenca, and Requena, should essentially promote the efficient objects of commerce and agriculture. Of such patriotic efforts an admirable example has been given by the societies of Saragossa and Biscay. But the society, established at Madrid, has been devoted to the alleviation of distress, rather than to the encouragement of industry. By the others nothing is either effected or attempted, and all their efforts are circumscribed to the ceremony of assembling three or four times a-year.

Roads. Inns, Carriages. In New Castile the traveller encounters neither the sloughs of Catalonia, nor the rugged stones of Aragon. The roads are commonly more firm and even, but are almost universally incommoded with dust.

Several of the roads in this province are of recent origin; they were constructed with care, and succeeded to such as were almost impracticable. The cross roads present an image

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of what other roads have been; they are scarcely passable, but are narrow, crooked, and uneven, and so totally neglected, as often to become perilous. The new roads are handsome and spacious, particularly in the environs of Madrid. A description has been already given of those found in Torrija, between Alcala de Henarez and Madrid, and between Madrid and the frontier of la Mancha. The roads which lead from the capital to the royal mansions are invariably good. There is another road, constructed under Ferdinand the Sixth, which forms the communication between the two Castiles, equally good; it runs from Madrid to the summit of the Puerto de Guadarrama, a mountain that once presented to the traveller a tremendous aspect, but is now traversed with ease and security.

These roads are sometimes planted with trees, and frequently intersected by rivers, which are seldom without a bridge. The Henarez is forded, as is the Guadarrama, between Madrid and Talavera de la Reyna. The bridge of Viverez is thrown over a rapid torrent; the bridges of Toledo and Segovia are raised on the Manzanarez; there is a bridge over the Albercho; the bridge of St. Catherine over the Tagus; the bridges of St. Martin and Alcantara over the same river; the bridge Pajaso is over the Cabriel; and another bridge over the Xarama. Many of these are constructed with solidity and magnificence.

Inns are more numerous in New Castile than other parts of the Spanish monarchy. A description has been already given of those at Madrid, Alcala de Henarez, and Toledo. That of Puerto de Guadarrama is equally good; those of the royal mansions of Aranjuez, the Escurial, and St. Ildefonso, are excellent, but exorbitantly dear.

The posadas are dirty and disgusting, and unprovided with beds, in which the traveller may hope to enjoy repose. The most supportable of them are those found at Bravo, Talavera de la Reyna, and Cebolla.

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The traveller is secured from imposition by the regulation which affixes a specific price on the chambers, beds, and provisions.

Carriages are here of a similar construction with those employed in other parts of Spain. The Valencians and the Catalonians are distinguished by the peculiar neatness of their harnesses and equipage. The Castilians are not addicted to this species of vanity; they ride more frequently in gigs, calashes, and chariots, than coaches, which are, indeed, almost peculiar to Madrid.

The Castilian carts are easily distinguished from those of Catalonia; they are both drawn by mules; but in the Castilian carts the animals are harnessed two and two, and ranged in file in the Catalonian vehicles.

Small carts, drawn by oxen, are commonly seen in New Castile; they are short and straight, and move on two or four wheels of considerable diameter, armed with moveable irons, the creaking noise of which is grating to the ear. These machines advance not more than four leagues in the day; they are commonly seen in companies of twenty, a hundred, or even two hundred, drawn up in two rows, one on each side of the road. On a distant view they present a singular spectacle, and remind the traveller of the tedious progression of a caravan.

Observations on its Natural History. Level countries are in general more favourable to the researches of natural history than mountainous districts. New Castile, however, offers some objects sufficiently curious to engage attention.

The plains discover little novelty to the botanist; the mountains, on the contrary, contain treasures of intelligence. On the mountains of Guadarrama, Pineda, and Cuenca, it is scarcely possible to advance a single step without trampling on various tribes of plants, which, however beautiful or useful, are scarcely known to the natives of Spain. This career of knowledge was opened to botanists by Mons. de Cavanillas,

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who having sedulously devoted himself to the study of plants, during a residence of fifteen years at Paris, began a series of observations in Valencia, with the intention of extending them through the other provinces; he was eminently endowed with all the patience and activity, the study, zeal, and comprehensive knowledge, so essentially requisite to his arduous pursuit; but death arrested his steps, and no succeeding botanist has resumed his useful and adventurous enterprize.

In the animal kingdom there is little to extort particular attention. On some of the mountainous parts of Cuenca are discovered the same species of deer with those found on the mountains of Aragon. This province produces the coccus, or kermes, or gall insect, the precious worm that supplies the carnation tint, and is found in the quercus ilex, or quercus coccifera: a forest of those trees is discovered near Flores, between that village and the river Henarez, on the road from Pampeluna to Madrid.

The mountains of Cuenca contain many objects interesting to the mineralogist. The river Moscas rises there, and flows from thence to Valera; it has a saline taste. On the mountain of Barbaxeda, near Beteta, is discovered a copper mine, and a bed of coal. On the same mountain, near the lakes of Tobar, and Beteta, are hyacinthine stones. Near Maranchon fragments of pisolites, belemnites, and other bivalved fossil shells, are discovered on a bed of calcareous earth. These mountains contain various kinds of marbles. There is a marble variegated with yellow and violet shades two leagues east of Cuenca; a yellow marble veined with violet; a yellow marble striped with pink, and a marble variegated with several colours. These are all discovered at Bonaco de Sierra, a village two leagues north of Cuenca, and at Cierva, a village four leagues to the east of that town.

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These mountains present also the phenomenon of two lakes on a lofty part of the mountain Barbexeda, near the village of Tabor, one is broader than the other; they are both of considerable depth; four hundred fathoms of rope have been lowered without reaching the bottom; teals and wild-ducks are found in them, with other acquatic birds; they produce also tench in abundance, which are caught in the months of May and June.

In the environs of Madrid are several quarries of flint; at the foot of the mountains of Guadarrama was discovered a large emerald, which is employed in polishing mirrors in the glass-house of St. Ildefonso.

The mountain of Las Contreras contains a salt-mine, which was worked by the Romans; it is three leagues from Motilla, a village situated on the road leading from Madrid to the frontiers of Valencia; it is called the salt-pit of Minglanilla, and has been already described in another part of this work.

There are several curious caves in the mountains of New Castile.

There are two on the mountains de Las Contreras, on the road leading from Madrid to Valencia; one of these opens to the road near the Venta at the bridge of Pojazo; it is a deep cavern, which penetrates to the bosom of the mountains. The other is found to the left of Bonaco, and is called the Cueva de las Judias; it is spacious and full of stalactites; the entrance is by a narrow aperture that seems to interdict intrusion.

There are three others in the mountains of Cuenca, not unworthy of notice; of these the first is the Cueva de los Griegos, or Cavern of the Greeks, known in the country by the name of Belvalle; and situated in the neighbourhood of Masegosa; it is of ample dimensions, its height is forty feet, its depth unknown; it exhibits congelations of a singular appearance; some of them assume a columnar form,

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and others look like figures in bass-relief. The Cueva del Hierro, or Iron Cavern, is not far from the Cavern of the Greeks, and is within a league of Beteta; it has a narrow entrance; several galleries are cleft in its sides, some of which are terminated by squares; here is also a fountain of fresh water, to which you ascend by a kind of staircase. This cavern is perfectly unfathomable; and in all probability is but the remains of some mine exploded at a remote period. The Cueva de Pedro Cotillas, or the Cavern of Peter Cotillas, communicates with the summit of the mountain near Cuenca, a league from Palomera; the entrance is strait and narrow; its interior is of ample extent, and broken into different kinds of galleries, some of which are interminable to the view. This cavern is remarkable for the variety and beauty of its congelations, which compose stalactites of every description; to the eye they present striking similitudes of the human figure, of dogs, adders, pyramids, and columns; by the light of torches they are resplendent; some of them, by their transparence, resemble chrystal; water is constantly dripping from every part of this cavern, which in all probability is the relic of an ancient mine.

Mineral waters, both cold and warm, are found in abundance; the cold springs are, first, the fountain of Alameda Sagra, which rises in the mountains, from a bed of lime, four leagues from Toledo, it is saline and cathartic; the fountain of Colmenar Viejo, six leagues from Madrid; the fountain of Vacia-Madrid, a village three leagues from the capital, which, according to the analysis of Bowles, contains Epsom salt, Glauber's salts, and selenite, and is highly cathartic There are several streams issuing from the rocks near Cevica, a settlement of the Jeronimites, in the Alcarria, which are both saline and purgative; the Fuente del Canalon, contiguous to Duron, a village in the jurisdiction of Beteta, on the mountains of Cuenca; two sources flowing from a ravine, contiguous to the village of Anover, between

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between Aranjuez and Toledo, whose water is impregnated with Epsom salt, and, after evaporation in the sun, forms spongy flakes white as snow; the same salt is deposited on the gypsum, and argillaceous soil beyond those sources.

Among the thermal waters are, the Fuente del Rosal, behind the hermitage of that name, close to Beteta, four leagues from Priego, on the Sierra de Cuenca; it is extremely hot and copious, it is only used for drinking; a spring found a quarter of a league from Buendia, a small town in the diocese of Cuenca, eighteen leagues from Madrid, erroneously supposed to be alkalescent; the spring of Sacedon, a quarter of a league distant, where there are baths; the waters of Trillo, in the Alcarria, where there are baths also *; La Fuente del Toro, near Molar, six leagues from Alcala de Henarez, in the Alcarria, serves but for beverage; there is a copious spring in the vale of Solar de Cabras, a pass of off difficult access on the Sierra de Cuenca; it is simply a spring of water, but supplies excellent baths; there are two considerable springs on the borders of Guadiala, two leagues south of Alcantud, a village on the Sierra de Cuenca; the water is called hepatic, the baths are in a spacious bason open to the air.

It is pretended that the Tagus rolls over gold, and that bars of this metal have been extracted from its sands. This erroneous supposition has originated in the gold medallions so often discovered in the waters of the Tagus, towards the environs of Toledo; many productions of this precious metal are preserved in that city, and on an examination they evidently appear to have been Roman and Gothic medals.

* Don Juan Gayan y Santoyo published, in 1760, a treatise on these three springs, entitled, Mapa Historial y Discursos Analyticos de los Banos de Sacedon, Corcoles, Trillo y Buendia. There is also an admirable dissertation on the waters of Trillo, by don Casimir Gomez Ortega, one of the best chymists in Spain, whose acknowledged talents have procured him the honourable distinction of being associated in several academies in the different countries of Europe.

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The value of the articles thus extracted from the Tagus in the course of the eighteenth century, is estimated at several millions of pezos; the care of collecting such materials devolves on a class of men designated by the name of Artesilleros, who, after an inundation of the Tagus, heap up sand in little baskets, called artesillas, when, having added to it water, they shake the contents of the basket, and the heavy materials being precipitated to the bottom, they discover whatever treasure they may have been fortunate enough to redeem from the waves. To explain the discovery of such materials in the Tagus, we should recollect that treasures have been repeatedly concealed in the bosom of the earth by Romans, Goths, Moors, and Jews; that golden mines have actually existed in the vicinity of the river, and that some detached particles may easily be conceived to have been carried along by the rapidity of its current.

Natural history has never attracted the attention of the Spanish people. Salvador, an apothecary of Barcelona, was the first who attempted to form a collection, with the view of elucidating such subjects. Another Spaniard, don Pedro Francis d'Avila, devoted a large part of his fortune to this object; having formed a valuable collection, during a long residence at Paris, he presented it to Charles the Third, and thus laid the foundation of the royal cabinet at Madrid, which, constantly enriched and augmented by an accession of valuable articles from every quarter of the globe, bids fair to become one of the first establishments of this kind in Europe.

State of the Arts and Sciences. In New Castile the arts have experienced the same fate as in the other parts of Spain. During the splendid eras of Ferdinand, Charles, and Philip, they appear to have gained their acmé of perfection; under Philip the Third they began to degenerate, and in the reign of Philip the Fourth and Charles the Second, their destruction

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destruction was consummated. Good architects, skilful sculptors, and eminent painters, had disappeared, and every vestige of genius with them, when Philip the Fifth ascended the throne.

No sooner was this prince in the tranquil possession of the crown, than he made strenuous efforts to revive in his subjects their taste for those neglected arts, in which they had formerly excelled. With this view, he established at Madrid an academy for painting, sculpture, and architecture, on the model of that at Paris; and erected schools for drawing, painting, sculpture, and architecture; the same plan was pursued by his successors. In the academy the pupil received instruction and encouragement, his emulation was excited by the frequent distribution of prizes, and his taste corrected by ambitious imitation of the best masters. Sufficient mention has already been made of this institution in the description of Madrid.

Charles the Third established a mechanical school, of which the avowed object was to form eminent proficients in the useful arts of dialling and watchmaking, but hitherto it has not produced a single pupil.

There is also a school for music, but its only object is to supply performers for the royal chapel.

The restoration of the liberal arts is evidently limited to Madrid; it is there only that men of genius are animated by the voice of fame, or recompensed by the hand of fortune; the auspicious influence of the sovereign is bounded to his capital. In other parts of New Castile the arts meet not even with amateurs, every circumstance is adverse to their cultivation and developement, no establishment exists to foster genius, to elicit knowledge, to inspire taste, and in general they are little understood, and still less appreciated.

The mechanical arts are also held in no estimation, and pursued with little success; it is not easy to discover a good artisan

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artisan in a native of New Castile; even such as are found in the capital are either foreigners or Catalonians.

The reflective, serious temper of the Castilians is, perhaps, less favourable to the cultivation of the arts, than the study of the abstract sciences; for the higher range of intellectual exertion they are eminently qualified, by the clearness of their conceptions, the quick intelligence of their penetration, and the strength and solidity of their judgment; experience illustrates this truth. New Castile has produced men, ose names must be preserved by philosophy from neglect and oblivion.

The general declension of the Spanish monarchy under the last princes of the Austrian line, extended equally to the arts and sciences. In New Castile these symptoms of degeneracy and decay were universal; precluded by its central position, from having any intercourse with foreign nations, it had no opportunity of profiting by their example, their knowledge, or their experience; the prevalence of poverty contributed also to detach the mind from such pursuits as exacted a tedious process of study and application, and which, after an age of care and adversity, could only offer a splendid but barren recompence; repelled by the dread of penury, the student turned his steps to those alluring paths of science which promised the possession of ease and opulence. He observed that theology opened the treasures of the church, and that law conducted to the highest offices of the state; on theology or law, therefore, he made his election, and pursued them with a zeal proportioned to the keenness of his ambition, and his rapacity for power and emolument.

The accession of the Bourbons to the throne of Spain produced a new order of things; this new dynasty restored to the state the nerve it had lost, and gradually recalled its departed genius. Not satisfied with lending protection to ancient establishments, it has been the object of these princes

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princes to create institutions, and to lavish on them their royal munificence. Spain has revived; it can already boast of men not unworthy to hold a distinguished place in the literature of Europe; it must, however, be acknowledged, that New Castile has not greatly participated in these improvements; the progress of the sciences is limited to the city of Madrid, where the Castilians are perhaps less distinguished than the natives of the other provinces.

In New Castile there are the three universities of Alcala de Henarez, Toledo, and Siguenza. In the two first, the masters are sufficiently numerous (to form complete establishments) if the instructions were more judiciously directed; there are twenty-four at Toledo, and thirty at Alcala. The students are initiated into theology, civil and canonical law, medicine, philosophy, the mathematics, the Greek and Hebrew languages, but the theology is narrowed by the schools; the medicine consists of an heterogeneous mass of opinions, extracted from Galen and Boërhaave; their philosophy is a coalition of the peripatetic and the modern schools; no information is offered on doctrinal divinity, anatomy, chemistry, botany, or experimental philosophy; a large portion of time is consumed in the acquisition of useless terms and unmeaning quibbles. The university of Siguenza is almost too insignificant to be included in the number of institutions for the advancement of literature.

In some towns, such as Toledo and Talavera de la Reyna, there are private schools of philosophy and theology, under the superintendence of monks, which, according to the principles of their institution, should be consecrated to the use of the religious orders, but which, with more liberality than judgment, are left open to all classes in the community, and have the unfortunate effect of diverting the public attention from agriculture and commerce to recondite speculations, totally useless to the great mass of society.

Formerly

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Formerly there were private colleges in every city, endowed with an university; they were instituted with the laudable view of accelerating the progress of knowledge; four of them still exist at Toledo, and eleven at Alcala de Henarez, but they participate in all the radical vices of those universities they are destined to support.

The recent institutions, originating in the beneficence of Spanish sovereigns, have been made with more discernment, and are evidently calculated to promote the welfare of the people.

There are at Madrid four schools for surgery, chemistry, botany, and practical medicine. There has lately been a professor appointed to deliver public lectures on chemistry in the botanic garden; another professor treats on such parts of chemistry as are connected with dyeing and the mechanic arts. There are two other professors, well acquainted with pharmacy, who deliver lectures on botany in the royal garden; they are assisted by two physicians and two botanists; the business of the former is to collect observations on the properties of plants, whilst the latter are employed in the arrangement of a hortus of Chili and Peru The king established here, in 1795, a school of practical medicine, in which three professors and a demonstrator deliver lectures in anatomy, diseases, and such branches of chemistry as are connected with medicine; there is also annexed to it a public library. A school for surgery was also founded in 1787, superintended by the king's surgeon, with the title of president; it has eight professors, a practical anatomist, and a public library.

These four last establishments are yet recent, and capable of being rendered eminently useful to the public. The schools of surgery and botany are already more advanced; the medical school is still in its rudimental state; they are all liable to one objection, that, being placed in the capital, the attention of the pupils is constantly distracted by the

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the busy multiplicity of objects; and they have the disadvantage of being situated in a city where the expences of living are such as must preclude all, who are not rich, from a course of attendance. They are also subject to the inconvenience of being at a considerable distance from the universities; a circumstance which involves the necessity of double journies and double charges, and in these the unprofitable consumption of time, and a formidable accumulation of trouble and expence. It is a curious fact, that the universities, which have been established for the purpose of affording general instruction, are totally destitute of elementary schools of science; and that in the capital, where only such schools exist, there are no universities, and consequently the student cannot at the same time acquire science and pursue the means for obtaining the academical distinction of a diploma.

In 1796 the king created a corps of cosmographic engineers, and founded at Madrid, a school, where instruction was given in geometry, meteorology, geography, and anatomy. The professors are selected from the officers of the corps, who are divided into captains, lieutenants, and sub-lieutenants; the pupils hold the rank of cadets. This establishment is not sufficiently advanced to have its utility ascertained.

There are two other public institutions at Madrid, the college of St. Isidore, and the seminary for the nobility, which have both been noticed in another place.

There are two public libraries; there is also an admirable collection of books in the possession of the duke de Medina Celi, which by the liberality of that nobleman is opened daily to the public.

It is an obvious, though painful reflection, that the benefits which the presence of the sovereign should shower on the province are, in New Castile, confined to the capital; all useful and polite institutions are concentrated at Madrid, but the country beyond its walls is not permitted to enjoy their beneficial influence. Madrid is a city isolated from the

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the country in which it is placed; every thing is lavished on the capital; every thing withheld from the provinces. Madrid is rich; New Castile poor; the arts and sciences, that reflect such splendour on the one, are to the other interdicted and unknown. With every disadvantage of soil and climate, the city has been made the seat of pleasure, the emporium of wealth, the scene of honour, patronised and protected by kings. The country, though favoured with a fertile soil, has been devoted by neglect to indigence and obscurity.

That New Castile is not destitute of native genius, is sufficiently evinced by the enlightened theologians, the learned civilians, the judicious physicians, the eminent naturalists, the mathematicians, poets, dramatists, historians, orators, and artists, it has produced.

In theology it has to boast of Gregorius Bœticus and Alcala de Henarez, in the fourth century; of St. Ildefonso in the seventh; the popes Mechiades and Damasus; Alvarez Gomez de Ciudadreal, Francis Lopez, Andrew de Losa, Garcias de Loaisa Giron, and Alphonso de Andreda.

Among its civilians we may place Didace de Covarrubias, of Toledo; Didace Collantes de Avellanedo, of Guadalaxara; Ramirez de Prado, John del Castillo Sotomayor, Didace Antony Janez de Faxardo, Antony Gomez, Ferdinand Gomez Arias, Antony de Menesez y Padilla, and Bartholomew Frias de Albornos.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries New Castile produced various ornaments to literature and science. Under its Moorish governors, Toledo gave birth to Joleus Joli, the botanist; to Ali Albucazem, the astrologer; to Abraham el Zarakeel, the mathematician; Christopher Roxas, and Francis Hernandez, to whom we are indebted for the natural history of New Spain. To Alcala Henarez we owe the two physcians, Christopher à Vega, and Francis de Silva, of Olivera, who wrote on Galen, Hippocrates, and the plague, and

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and charcoal. Of the same place was John Bustamente de la Camara, whose essay on the animals, mentioned in sacred history, was the model of Bochart's larger work. Madrid produced Benedict Peter de Vargas, and Didace Hernandez de Mandoza, the genealogist. Alphonso Lopez de Haro, the physician; Andrew Alcazar, or Vulcacer, were of Guadalaxara. Francis Nunez de Orio, a poet and a physician; and the astronomer, Alvarez de Pinas y Roxas, were natives of Casarrubios. Alphonso de Herrera, an agricultural writer, was of Talavera de la Reyna.

New Castile has also been equally distinguished in elegant literature.

Among its historians we may notice Antony de Trillo, and Mathias Medina y Mendoza; Gonsalve Cespedez y Menesez; Alvarez Gomez de Castro; Bernardin de Menesez, and John Mariana; Jeromio Roman de la Higuera, Trillo, and Menesez.

Among its poets we may notice Francis Figueroa, Alphonso de Vatres, Ferdinand de Acuna, Gabriel Tellez, John Peres de Montalvan, Balthasar Eloi de Medinilla. Antony Cuello, Francis de Quintana, and J. C. Cortes de Tolosa, are well known for their novels and romances; Francis Quevedo de Villegas has been already mentioned as a poet, a novelist, and a dramatic writer.

New Castile has also produced divines eminently distinguished by their powers in oratory. Such was Christopher de Fonseca, of Santa Olalla, in the sixteenth century. Such was Jeromio de Florencia, of Alcala de Henarez, and Alvarez Semple de Tovar, who lived in the seventeenth century.

The polite arts have been indebted to the genius of this province. Angela Sige, a celebrated lady already mentioned in this work, and Antony Caberon, excelled in music. The able architect, John Baptist Manogro, was of Toledo; Francis Ricci, John Pantoja, Barthelemy Romain, and Francis Solis,

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Solis, all painters of the second order, were natives of Madrid. Blaise del Prado, a coeval artist, was born at Toledo.

Character. Manners. Habits. Customs. Dress. Language. It might naturally be expected, that the influence of the court should operate on the manners of New Castile, or at least on such parts of it as are placed in its vicinity. It has been already observed, that Madrid is isolated from New Castile, the capital is always elevated above the province. On leaving its walls you are instantly transported from a seat of luxury to a scene of indigence; and, instead of activity, industry, and wealth, are presented with a dreary picture of sadness, sloth, and beggary.

The inhabitant of New Castile, though marked by a lofty aspect, is not proud, and, with the expression of extreme gravity, is, in reality, prone to excessive mirth. With superior capacities for reflection, he thinks much but demonstrates little, and acts less; he is rather slow in yielding his confidence, but, when he trusts at all, it is with his whole heart and soul; he is neither prompt in enterprize, nor disposed to acquire the regular habits of industry. There are, perhaps, not many active occupations he is likely to pursue with success; his aptitudes are to science, particularly to such abstruser branches as are connected with speculation and research; his conceptions are strong and vigorous; his judgment solid; his imagination vivid and vivacious; he devotes himself completely to the objects of his pursuit, but he is seldom capable of embracing more than one at the same moment; his genius only requires culture and encouragement; but he possesses not the power to obtain knowledge, and the government fails to afford him the means of instruction.

With acute and vivid feelings he is more reflective than the native of Catalonia or Aragon; he is never precipitate; he weighs, he deliberates, and is slow in forming his decision;

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tion; and, consequently, is not easily induced to leave his own sphere.

His vivacity belongs to the mind; it impels not to activity or to personal exertions. Hence his apparent sloth, and slowness, so frequently cited with reproach; on examination it will, however, appear, that his failings have originated rather in his situation than his character. It should be remembered, that the Castilian was formerly devoted to the art of war, and taught to despise the occupations of agriculture and science, as inferior and ignoble objects. This prejudice has been transmitted from his ancestors, and is perpetuated by indigence and ignorance. Fortune places a barrier to his progress in science. The same adverse circumstances impede him in agriculture and the arts; he beholds a fertile soil; but he commands no ports; no marts to remunerate the care and toil of assiduous cultivation.

The New Castilian possesses qualities of genuine excellence; he is honourable and humane, sober and temperate, and revolts from every species of falsehood or duplicity. In his temper he is more docile than the native of Old Castile, who pertinaciously retains the inflexibility of his ancestors, whilst the other readily assimilates with the character of the neighbouring provinces. In general the observer may trace in him a complexional resemblance to the country he approximates; he is most civilized in the environs of Madrid; most useful in the borders of Andalusia; most active and industrious on the confines of the kingdom of Valencia; most arrogant and rude on the frontiers of Aragon and the Sierra de Cuenca; most indolent in the neighbourhood of Estremadura, whilst generosity, nobleness, and benevolence, are the bonds that unite him to Old Castile. In particular we should select for praise the inhabitants of Alcarria, distinguished by their frankness and simplicity; their chearful

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love of labour; their social affections, and ready hospitality.

In the course of several centuries the character of the Castilian has scarcely undergone any change. From the era of 1230 it has been fully developed; the principles of magnanimity, generosity, fidelity, valour, and integrity, which then entered into its constitution, are still apparent in all the revolutions which have convulsed the country. The Castilian has still preserved that decorous composed gravity, that calm reflective prudence, that fortitude in adversity, which characterized him in the fifteenth century.

The Catalonian hates the Castilian, who requites the sentiment with detestation and contempt. The loyal Castilian burns with indignation against the revolts so frequent in Catalonia, and stigmatizes its native by the name of rebel.

There are some festivals peculiar to the court, which assimilate perfectly with the primitive and original character of the people. Of this description are the bull-fights, which have usually been exhibited in the place mayor at Madrid, with every appendage of grandeur and magnificence. Such also are the parejas held at Aranjuez, which present the image of an ancient tournament, and correspond exactly with those given in Valencia, with no other deviation than that of displaying more magnificence.

Many towns and districts of New Castile are distinguished by local customs and amusements. Such are the mondas of Talavera de la Reyna, the festival of the knights of Prado, the mass of Aginaldo, the custom of burning Judas in effigy.

It is observable that the Castilian, in the promenade, adopts a mode peculiar to himself; instead of pacing backwards and forwards, he takes his seat on one of the benches, enjoys the air, and never rises but to return home.

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The guitar is a favourite instrument in Castile, where it has the vocal accompaniment of seguidillas and tiranas. There are two other instruments peculiar to this province, the pandero and the zambomba.

The pandero consists of a frame of wood, on which are stretched two pieces of parchment; it has often the appendages of ribbons and bells; the performer strikes the parchment with his fingers in the same manner that he strikes the trimbrel; its tones are louder than those of the zambomba, but somewhat dull and monotonous; it has usually the accompaniment of seguidillas.

The zambomba is an instrument made of a hollow earthen-vessel; a piece of parchment is tightly extended over the mouth, in the middle of which a reed, about four or five inches long, on the outside is fixed. The player wets his finger, and rubs it up and down the reed, and by that means produces certain harsh and monotonous sounds without modulation. The lower classes of people walk about the streets at night playing on this instrument, which they accompany with the voice. The zambomba is used only from All Saint's Day till Christmas, and is seldom or ever heard the rest of the year.

Dancing forms one of the pleasures of the Castilians. At their balls they practise minuets, country dances, reels, and the passepied; but the national dances are the fandango, the bolero, the seguidillas, and the guaracha. The three first are common to all Spain, and have been already described; the last is peculiar to themselves, and is danced to the music of the guitar by a single person; the steps are formal and precise, greatly resembling the Dutch.

The dress of New Castile is only distinguished from that of the other provinces by very slight variations, which have been described in speaking of the costume of Spain.

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New Castile has no peculiar dialect. The Castilian, now called the Spanish, is the only language in use there. It is, in fact, that province of Spain where the purest Castilian is spoken, especially in that part belonging to the ancient kingdom of Toledo.

LA MANCHA.

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LA MANCHA.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE PROVINCE OF LA MANCHA.

La Mancha, without ever having been confounded with New Castile, has always shared the fate of that province. It has had the same sovereigns, and undergone the same vicissitudes in the different changes of masters. It passed at the same time with New Castile from the Romans to the Goths, from them to the Moors, and again from the Moors to the Goths. Under the dominion of the latter it formed a part of the kingdom of Toledo, after the extinction of which it became dependant on that of Castile. At present La Mancha forms a province with an entirely distinct administration, and a comptroller of its own, who resides at Ciudad Real.

This extensive country is situated on the north of New Castile, by which it is bounded on one side, and on the others by Estremadura, the kingdoms of Cordova, Jaen, Murcia, and Valencia. It is forty-three leagues long, and thirty-three broad. On the north is New Castile; on the west Estremadura; on the south

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the kingdoms of Cordova and Jean; and on the east are Murcia and Valencia. The capital was formerly Oret; but this city, after having made a determined resistance to the Moors, was taken and burnt to the ground in 713. La Mancha is divided into Upper and Lower. The capital of the former is Ciudad Real, and Ocanna of the latter. The soil in general is dry and dusty; the country abounds in plains of considerable extent, but waste, and almost without trees. It is watered by some very small rivers only, which are little more than rivulets. Among others are, the Bedija, the Giguela, the Riansarez, and the Javalon. The three rivers of the Tagus, the Guadiana, and the Jucar, are very inconsiderable in this part of the country. Great part of the province is surrounded by mountains, forming part of the chain beginning in Sierra d'Occa, called by the ancients Montes Orospedani. The most considerable of these mountains is the Sierra d'Alcarraz, extending from north to south, towards the southern and eastern parts of the kingdom of Jaen. In La Mancha also, near Alcarrez, and at the side of the Sierra of that name, begins the famous Sierra Morena, or the Montes Mariani of the Romans. They continue to the kingdom of Cordova; a ridge spreads into Jaen, and they extend as far as Estremadura, and even to the banks of the Guadalquiver.

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The province of La Mancha contains one hundred and eleven parishes, seventy-eight monasteries and convents, two cities, and one hundred and twenty-one towns, of which ten only belong to the crown, and seventy-five to the military orders, forty-six villages, one intendancy of a province, and one hospital.

The principal towns are Ciudad Real, the capital of Upper Mancha; Ocanna, the chief town of Lower Mancha; Alcasan and Almagro. The population is rather more than 200,000 inhabitants, and the clergy not numerous. The Mesa de Ocanna is the richest and most fertile plain in the whole country.

Itinerary from the Frontiers of New Castile, above Aranjuez, to the Frontiers of Murcia, Twenty-three Leagues and a Half.

Ocanna, a town	2½ leagues.
Villatobas, village Riansarez, river and bridge Corral de Almaguer, town	3
La Jixera, river and bridge	2
Quintenar de la Orden, town	1
La Mota del Cuervo, village	3
Pedernuso, village	1¾
Pedronera, village	1
Provencio, village	1½
An Inn	2

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Minaya, a town	1½ leagues.
La Roda, a town	2½
An Inn	1½

Note. New Castile ends below Ocanna. The traveller enters immediately into this city, which is in La Mancha, and covers the boundaries on this side.

Ocanna, a large and antique city, situated on an eminence on the side of New Castile and La Mancha, stands at the entrance of the vast plain of La Mesade Ocanna. It is in the country of the ancient Olcades; its origin is said to be remote and illustrious; it was formerly very strong, and the remains of the old wall are still to be seen. It belonged for some time to the order of Calatrava; it afterwards passed into the hands of the knights of St. James, whose property it now is, and was the residence of the grand masters. The city was then considerable, and its population great; but, without losing any thing of its extent, it has lost much of its splendour, and is partly in ruins. Nothing of its former buildings is now to be seen but the foundations and place where they stood; certain proofs of its decreasing population.

Ocanna contains four parishes, six monasteries, five convents, a governor of the order of St. James, and an alcade mayor. It boasts of two public fountains, and there was formerly a riding-school, where recruits were trained for the cavalry; but this was suppressed in 1785.

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The inhabitants carried on a considerable trade in gloves; there were as many as seventy-two manufactories, and 103,480 dozen pair were said to be made every year; but the importation of this commodity has entirely put a stop to that branch of industry and commerce. There is now only one manufactory of leather for shoe soles, and four of hard soap.

This city has no longer any edifice worthy of observation. The church of the barefooted Carmelites, where there is also a picture to be seen, is the only building of any taste.

One of the fountains deserves attention. As a whole it is grand and noble, and loses nothing by more minute examination. It is supposed by some to have been built in the reign of Philip the Second. It is probable, however, that it was erected at the time the grand masters of St. James, then so rich and powerful, lived at Ocanna. This epoch would be much earlier than the reign of Philip the Second.

If Ocanna presents a disagreeable prospect on the side of New Castile, it displays much beauty on the other. At a distance a number of spires, and some fine buildings strike the eye, and give it an appearance which its approach and interior quickly destroy. This town was the birth-place of Cyprian Saurez, who wrote on rhetoric and theology in the eighteenth

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teenth century, and of Christopher de Castro, a theologian of the following age.

The hotel is handsome, but in bad order.

The road from Ocanna is straight and level, well cut and repaired, of considerable breadth, and but lately made. It leads to the frontiers of Murcia, to Valencia, and ten leagues beyond that city, and crosses the northern extremity of the kingdom of Murcia. This road, however, becomes worse; in the part leading through La Mancha the ruts are deep and easily made; that part which passes through the kingdom of Valencia is much better and more solid. The manner in which the roads are made, in the two provinces, contributes as much to this difference as the nature of the soil.

The traveller next enters a large, fertile, and well cultivated plain, but bare of trees, except a few which are seen here and there at a distance. On the left is the village of Santa Cruz de la Zarra, belonging to the order of St. James, and supposed to be the ancient Vicus Cuminarius. A league and a half beyond are several olive plantations, which continue the length of a league; after that the country is again naked.

After about three hours travelling, you arrive at Villatobas, a large village, situated in the middle of the same plain, where Benedict de

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de Pandez, a celebrated preacher in the middle of the seventeenth century, was born.

The architecture of the parish church is bad; the inside is divided into three aisles; pillars, of an enormous size form a ridiculous contrast with four small pilasters, which are placed upon each of them. The principal altar is a mass of gilding, ornaments, columns, and statues, where all the orders of architecture are mingled and confused.

The road from Villatobas is equally good across the same plain. A number of almost imperceptible eminences present themselves about half an hour after leaving the town. The traveller, during that time, passes through a wood of holm-oaks, thinly planted; he then finds himself, for nearly an hour, on a parched and uncultivated soil, and arrives at another wood, which opens into a large and fertile plain. At the entrance stands the beautiful town of Corral de Almaguer; he arrives through an avenue of trees at a small suburb, then comes to a long causeway, which extends across an extensive meadow, surrounded with kitchen-gardens and nursery-grounds, which form a thick shrubbery. The little river of Rianserez flows under this causeway, on the other side of which is the town.

Corral de Almaguer is an ancient little town, partly in ruins; the appearance of the houses

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is wretched, and announces nothing like comfort. It contains a parish church, a monastery of Franciscans, a convent of nuns, an alcade mayor, and about 4000 people. A part of the inhabitants are employed in a manufactory of coarse earthenware. There are several hotels, the largest of which is not very good, though better than many others in Spain. This town is the birth-place of Juan Martinez, a theologian of the seventeenth century.

The same plain, always well cultivated, but always bare of shrubs, except a few olive-trees, brings us, at the distance of three leagues, to Quintenar de la Orden, where you arrive, leaving an inn about halfway, and cross the rivulet of Jixera, over a little bridge, built in 1780.

Quintenar de la Orden, a small town, takes its name from the order of St. James, to which it belongs. The service is performed in the parish church by a vicar and twelve priests. There is an alcade mayor. Some of the houses are respectable; but a number of them are fallen into ruins. The traveller can scarcely enter the province of La Mancha without having constantly in his thoughts the fabulous hero, whose name renders this country more celebrated than its spacious and parched-up plains could ever have made it. Cervantes, in his endeavours to ridicule the taste for romances, perhaps has left only a softer recollection of the spirit of chivalry,

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valry, which his hero, notwithstanding his madness, always renders venerable. The names of Quintenar and Toboso are impressed on the memory of every one, and one looks round for the village of the famed and peerless Dulcinea, and the wood where the first meeting took place between her and the doughty Don Quixote.

The entrance of this large plain is cultivated, but becomes, as you proceed, stony and waste; after this a few dwarf holm-oaks are thinly scattered, which are succeeded by a considerable plantation of olive-trees. A large valley, deeply sunk in the midst of the hills, presents itself all at once to the eye, beautiful, fertile, and well cultivated, but without trees. The village of La Mota del Cuervo terminates it on the opposite side; it is surrounded with verdant and cultivated eminences. This inclosure gives it the appearance of an inverted cone, and forms a very agreeable prospect. Fourteen windmills, which are on the top of one of these hills, naturally call to mind the first exploit of the knight of the woeful countenance.

On descending you pass through this valley, and, travelling for about two hours, you arrive, through avenues of trees, at La Mota del Cuervo, an old town, now reduced to the state of a ruined village, and presenting a deplorable image of poverty. You meet with nothing to eat, and the inn is very bad.

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You leave this town through a beautiful hanging wood in great perfection. The road leads through a plantation of olives to the top of the hill, where the soil is strong and poor. To this succeeds a little cultivated valley; and, leaving on the right the village of Santa Maria, which you perceive at the extremity, you come to two other valleys; the first of them is small and barren, situated at the foot of the rocks; the other is large, and half of it well cultivated. The traveller crosses a little brook over a handsome bridge. The valley then opens into a large and rich meadow, in the middle of which stands Pedernuso, a small village, where many ruins are to be seen. The streets are full of sharp stones; and the houses are but one story high. The hotel is handsome, and lately built, with a large court, the sides of which are provided with a covered roof for the accommodation of carriages. The apartments are very neat.

After this you pass through several plains separated by slight eminences, or rather forming together one large level, interrupted by a number of small hills. The land is chiefly laid out for corn. There are a few vineyards, but not a tree to be seen. At the distance of two leagues is Pedronera, an old and small town, now nothing more than a village; but it does not give such an idea of poverty as the preceding hamlets. Here is a manufactory of saltpetre. A little

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little beyond, the plain becomes barren, and does not improve till near Provincio, which is watered by a fine river, but of this the inhabitants do not make all the advantage they might. The principal branch of industry is the cultivation of saffron. After passing this village the soil is again without vegetation; at first it is sandy, at a little distance full of flints; and for the following three leagues and a half is very stony.

In this tedious journey you perceive at a distance a wood of pines, to which you arrive after an hour and a quarter's travelling from Provincio; you pass through it for about twenty minutes, it then opens on the right and left, and forming a large circle, reunites at the distance of about three quarters of a league, where you again pass through it for about ten minutes; it is continued further behind, and on each side. A large house, built in 1791, is made use of as an inn, and is situated in the middle of the circle which this wood forms. At length you arrive at Minaya.

Minaya is a small town, and seems to have been once considerable; it is now almost reduced to the size of a village. The entrance to the parish church is through a portico, supported by two pillars of the Corinthian order, of white marble. The church, although of a moderate size, has three chancels, separated by Corinthian

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Corinthian pillars, and a finely arched roof; but the architecture and sculpture of the altar greatly disfigure the interior; they are ill conceived and badly executed. The hotel is large, handsome, and well laid out; round the court, which is spacious, are sheds intended for the accommodation of carriages; the rooms are neat and clean.

The traveller next arrives, through an avenue of trees, at Roda, the last town of La Mancha, after having for three hours passed over a barren and naked plain, where he meets with no habitation except a solitary public-house.

Roda is a town of considerable size, but partly in ruins, situated in a parched and desert plain; the spire of the parish church is remarkable for its height. Here there are a monastery of Dominicans, a hospital, and several private chapels; it contains several houses of respectable appearance, nor is there so striking an air of misery in this place as in the other parts of La Mancha which have just been described. There are some good streets here, particularly that through which you pass in continuing your journey; it is broad, long, and regular, and would make an agreeable promenade if the sides were well planted with trees, but it has only a few on one side. Three of the houses in this street are worthy of observation; the first is built of free-stone, and the gate

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gate ornamented with pillars, over it are coats of arms and other decorations; the second has a handsome portico of two stories of architecture, adorned with armorial and other bearings; the third, and most remarkable, is situated at the end of a small square, planted with trees, and having a portico of white marble supported by four beautiful and carved pillars. On the top of this house is a dome, and on one side a pavilion, with a cupola of an octagonal shape.

On leaving Roda you pass through a short avenue of trees into the plain, which is here a little cultivated, but it soon changes, and except in a few spots, agriculture appears scarcely attended to. On the left, at some distance, are seen the mountains of Cuenca, in New Castile, and on the right the Sierra de Chinchilla, in the kingdom of Murcia.

After travelling near two leagues beyond Roda, you pass a small inn and enter the kingdom of Murcia.

Itinerary from the Frontiers of New Castile, through Aranjuez and Cuenca, to Ciudad Real, nineteen Leagues.

Ocanna	
La Guardia, a town	3 leagues.
Temblaque, a town	2
Consuegra, a town	4

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Fuente del Freno, a village	4 leagues.
Fernan-Cavallero, a small town	3
Le Guadiana, the river and bridge	2
Ciudad Real, a town	1

The road from Ocanna over the plains of La Mancha is interrupted by some little hills, which you ascend and arrive at la Guardia, after a journey of more than three hours.

La Guardia is a small town, situated on an eminence, with a population of four thousand inhabitants; at first sight it appears like a heap of ruins; it has a parish church and a convent of Mathurins. In the church are some fine pictures, especially one over the altar, of the Trinity, by Dominichino Teocopoli, the pupil of Titian, and the Annunciation, by Alexander de la Cruz; there are also some in the vestry, by Pierre Orrente and Angelo Nardi; in the chapel of the Conception are some paintings in fresco, by the latter artist.

On having passed through a country entirely without trees, you come to Temblaque, a little town, containing about six thousand souls, situated in a plain which produces corn, wine, and game, but is bare of trees. Tradition says that this town was founded by the Jews who came into Spain after the captivity of Babylon. The name is said to have been originally Bethlem, which is corrupted into Temblaque; to such etymologies there is no answer. In this

town

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town is a parish church, a monastery of Cordeliers, a handsome promenade, and a salt-petre refining-house, in which there are fifteen hundred fires; the material is found in the neighbourhood of Corral de Almaguer. An orchard has been planted here, by the order of the infant don Gabriel; it is extensive, rich, and in good order.

The country now becomes barren, as before, and you pass over four leagues of a desert and unvaried plain, as far as Consuegra, where you arrive, over five bridges, built across a torrent or ravin, which is sometimes swelled and dangerous; it is a small town, built on a little hill, and commanded by a height, where the remains of an old castle are still visible. You find here the same plantations as at Temblaque, by order of the same prince.

Just after leaving Consuegra, you meet with a few vines, and at the same time a small chain of mountains, extending as far as the village of Fuente del Castro, which is about four leagues distant; at last you come in sight of Malagon, a village producing corn, wine, and oil; you proceed to the little town of Fernan-Cavellero, and cross the Guadiana over a stone bridge. Near this place this river springs from the earth, and forms several lakes, which supply the stream; here, too, are the apertures through which the water flows, called the eyes of the

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Guadiana. The traveller soon approaches Ciudad Real; the first view of this town is very pleasant; the surrounding country is beautiful, it is covered with vines, olives, and a variety of other trees, and the prospect becomes more inviting as you come nearer the city, which lies about a league from the Guadiana.

The plain, in the midst of which Ciudad Real, the capital of La Mancha, is situated, is rich, and productive in corn, wine, and fruits. The city has lost much of its ancient splendour; it formerly enjoyed the advantages of several woollen manufactories, and carried on a flourishing trade; both are now fallen into decay, and have been followed by that of the city; the necessary consequence has been the diminution of its population, now reduced to the number of eight or nine thousand. The town is regularly laid out; the streets are straight, wide, and well paved; there is a square, one hundred and fifty paces long and seventy-five broad, surrounded with two rows of boxes, for the accomodation of the spectators at the bull-fights and public shews. Ciudad Real is the residence of the intendant of La Mancha, and the grand vicar and ordinary of the archbishop of Toledo, and the principal place within the controul of a corregidor. The municipality consists of a corregidor, and a certain number of subordinate officers, called regidors.

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In the parish church of St. Mary is a noble, lofty, and spacious chancel. The principal altar is composed of four different orders of architecture, each of which is ornamented with pillars, and, considered separately, is well executed, but as a whole it is confused.

A great quantity of leather for gloves was formerly prepared in this city, and a considerable manufactory of them was established. The cardinal of Lorenzana, the present archbishop of Toledo, has built at his own expence a hospital, which cost 1,200,000 reals, or 300,000 French livres*; this noble monument of clerical beneficence affords an asylum to a number of poor people, of all ages, who are all well attended; their children are maintained, and taught whatever trade they shew any predilection for. The archbishop has set on foot a manufactory of flannels and coarse woollen cloths, and intends to establish another of silks.

Itinerary from the Frontiers of New Castile, through Aranjuez and Ocanna, to Sierra Morena, the Frontiers of Andalusia, Twenty-seven Leagues.

Ocanna
La Guardia, a small town 3 leagues.

* Equal to about 12,500 pounds, English currency. T.

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Temblaque	2 leagues.
La Canada de la Liguera, post town	2
Madrilejos, little town	2
Ventas de Puerto la Pice, village	2½
Gijuela, river and bridge Villarta, village	2½
Casa Nueva del Rey, post town	1½
Manzanarez, little town	1½
Val de Penas, village	4
Santa Cruz de Mudela	2
Almuradiel, town	2
Venta de Cardenas	2

The road that leads from Ocanna to Temblaque has been already described; two hours after leaving the latter place you come to a post town, called Canada de la Liguera, and twelve leagues from thence, to Madilejos, a neat little town, containing about eight thousand inhabitants, and situated in a plain. The streets are regular, and the houses handsomely built: a considerable manufactory of woollen stuffs is established here. On leaving this town, you pass through several clumps of elms, irregularly spread over the neighbouring lands, forming an agreeable contrast with the plains, in which no vestige of verdure is apparent; the country is flat and unvaried. You next pass through the village of Puerto la Pice, situated at the bottom of two hills; in this part a few trees present themselves, at short intervals from each other. You next go over three

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three small eminences, laid out for corn-lands, vineyards, and olive plantations, and then arrive at the Gijuela, which forms, especially in winter, a lake not always to be crossed without danger. A very long and narrow bridge has lately been built over it; directly on the other side is the village of Villarta, where the wool of the province is manufactured into coarse stuffs.

In about eight hours you arrive at Manzanarez, leaving about mid-way Casa del Rey, which is a post town. The population of Manzanarez may be estimated at about eight thousand souls; it is one of the principal quarters of the royal carabineers; there is nothing else that is remarkable at this place. The land about it produces corn, saffron, and good wine; the vineyards are numerous here, and still more so in the neighbourhood of Val de Pinas, a town about four leagues distant. This part of the country produces the best wine in La Mancha, and which is most esteemed at Madrid. Two hours after, you come to Santa Cruz de Mudela, a village, situated at the foot of a hill, commanding the view of a very fertile plain; in this part there is a rich and productive mine of antimony. On approaching the mountains, which separate La Mancha from Andalusia, the traveller passes through Almuradiel, a handsome town, built in the

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modern style; it was built when the pass of the Sierra Morena was opened, and habitations and colonies established.

At this place terminate, towards the south, the immense plains of La Mancha; three leagues farther the traveller arrives at the Venta de Cardenas, after which the Sierra Morena begins.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT.

Population. La Mancha is less populous than formerly; this is very evident from the ruins, of which the towns and villages of this province are full; it appears, however, that the depopulation has been infinitely less than in New Castile, for you find here only eleven places formerly inhabited which are now abandoned, while in the latter province there are no fewer than one hundred and ninety-four. The real population, according to the survey of 1787 and 1788, amounts to 206,160 persons, among which are reckoned,

Parish Priests	104
Secular Priests	645
Monks	729
Nuns	610
Nobles	603
Advocates	92
Writers	174
Students	554
Domestics	8,410

Agriculture. La Mancha is a flat level country; the soil is poor, without strength or stiffness, almost destitute of rivers, brooks, or springs, dried up by the burning heat of the

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the sun, and parched with drought; nothing can be more unvaried than the wide and extensive plains of this province; the eye skims over immense levels, and loses itself in an unbounded horizon, without discovering inhabitants, trees, or even a plot of verdure to relieve it. A meagre soil, a sameness of cultivation, and careless husbandry, are all that present themselves to the attention of the traveller.

In some places, however, the earth retains the germ of vegetation with more vigour, and developes it with more activity, and refreshing streams contribute to fertilize it; these parts, however, are not often met with, and are more agreeable from their variety.

The productions of such a soil must necessarily be limited; it produces corn, and especially oats, in sufficient quantity to supply the neighbouring provinces. La Mesa (the plain) de Ocanna is the most fertile part of La Mancha, and that where the most corn is grown. A great deal is cut in the territory of Malagon, Almagro, Vilo, Manzanarez, and Temblaque, between the Ventas de Puerto la Pice, and the river Gijuela; but the principal part of the country is so destitute of trees, that for several leagues together you scarcely see a single one.

The most common trees are chesnuts, of a dwarf species, which grow spontaneously; however, olive trees are found in many parts, particularly in Ciudad Real, Malagon, and Almagro, where they abound; the oil would be sweet and palatable, if it were extracted with care. In these places there are a number of vines, as well as in Vilo, Consuegra, Manzanarez, the vale of Penas, and Temblaque, between the Ventas de Puerto de Pice, and the river Gijuela. The wine made here has not the strength or body of other Spanish wines; it is lighter, cooler, and more agreeable for common drinking; the wines of Manzanarez and the vale of Penas are preferred.

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The other productions of La Mancha are saffron, honey, and spar; but as the cultivation of saffron is continued on a less extensive plan than before, the result, which is more important, is, that the honey is less attended to; the collection of spar is much diminished, though still considerable. No fruit is to be met with except in some particular districts, and of course in small quantities; there is a little at Ciudad Real, Temblaque, and Consuegra; Almagro is famous for melons and potatoes. The meadows are not numerous, except for about four leagues, between Ciudad Real and Santa Cruz de Mudela, where they are very fine and extensive; immense herds are fed in these plains, especially mules, which are of an excellent breed.

Manufactures. The general causes of the decline of manufactures throughout Spain have operated equally over those of La Mancha; not but this province possesses some considerable establishments, but it formerly had more than at present, and insufficient proportion for so small a country. They fabricated ribbons, garters, worsted stockings, tapestry, and silks of differt sorts, and a great quantity of leather gloves, both at Ciudad Real and Ocanna; at the former of these towns they made all sorts of woollen stuffs, but they fell all together in the beginning, or towards the middle of the seventeenth century. Within the last twenty-five years an attempt has been made to re-establish the woollen manufacture, but it falls far short of the former both in quality and quantity.

A fabric of blond lace has been lately set on foot at Almagro, which employs two thousand three hundred people. The other branches of labour are reduced to four; one of hard soap, at Ocanna; another of flannels, at the same place and Campo de Criptance; a third, at Alcazar de St. Juan, of gunpowder; and three refining-houses of saltpetre at Pedronera, Temblaque, and Alcazar de St. Juan; this last furnishes annually two thousand quintals of saltpetre

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petre to the crown, on whose account it is worked. An earth, found in the district of Corral d'Almaguer, supplies that at Temblaque with materials. The wool spinning is a considerable source of industry throughout this province, and employs from twelve to sixteen thousand people of all ages and sexes.

Commerce. There are few provinces where trade is so dead as La Mancha; formerly they exported gloves and woollen cloths, now the wool which is manufactured in the country is scarcely sufficient for internal consumption. The only productions with which it furnishes the neighbouring provinces, are a little spar, oats, and wine; this last is exported in greater quantities than the other two, and principally supplies Madrid; a little blond-lace and shoe-leather are also sold to the neighbouring provinces. These insignificant objects of commerce are far from balancing the advantages which La Mancha derives from the other provinces and foreign countries, whence it is supplied with shot, spices, salt provisions, hardware, linen, muslins, broad-cloths, fine woollen stuffs, silks, and in a word with all the articles of luxury, and even many of necessity, with regard to clothing. The province of La Mancha must, therefore, necessarily become poorer every day; the people are miserable, and there is scarcely any thing but the traces of wretchedness to be seen; were it not for the benefits arising from the wool-spinning, poverty would be carried to its extreme; as it is, a great number of the country people are in want of bread three parts of the year.

Roads, Carriages, and Inns. La Mancha has no good roads, as has been remarked, except two; one of them leads from Ocanna to the frontiers of Murcia, and the other from Ocanna to the Sierra Morena, and into Andalusia. The carriages, which are but few, are the same as those in New Castile; they have no public vehicle for travelling. The beautiful equipages of mules are rarely seen here, and the want

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want of them is but indifferently supplied by oxen. All through La Mancha you meet with nothing but posadas, houses where the traveller may procure a lodging, but nothing necessary for his subsistence; however, those on the road from Aranjuez to the frontier of Murcia, are tolerably neat and clean, and the guest may get any victuals, he has had the precaution to bring with him, very well cooked. The same inconvenience is felt on the road from Madrid to Ocanna, and the Sierra Morena. Necessity must be the only inducement for travelling in this province.

Natural History. The naturalist will find but few objects worthy of observation, and still fewer of research in this part of Spain. The animal and vegetable kingdoms present nothing remarkable; some of the mines deserve attention; as also the mineral waters, which are but little known or frequented.

Silver. A mine of this metal, situated near Almodovar del Campo, was lately worked; but having filled with water, it was abandoned on that account; it is situated a league and a half from Almodovar del Campo.

The iron mines are numerous at Alcazar de St. Juan.

Ochre is found at La Plaza de Albertos, near the place before mentioned.

Rock-crystal is also discovered in the valley of Alcudia, near Almodovar del Campo.

Bole. This is the same as bole Ammoniac, and is found in a place called Tirez, a league and a half from Alcaraz.

Calamine. About three leagues from Alcaraz, towards the middle of the mountain, is a mine of calamine, consisting of a vein of about three or four feet broad, without any mixture of lead, running through a yellow and hard earth. Zinc was formerly extracted from it. It was opened towards the middle of the eighteenth century.

Several mines of antimony are likewise found in the valley of Alcuda, near Almodovar del Campo, at the foot of the Sierra

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Sierra Morena, near Santa Cruz de Mudela. The mineral lies just on the surface of an uneven plain, without any mixture of iron, and very abundant and rich. They sometimes, in one day, produce pieces of from two to three hundred pounds weight, very pure. It has been worked since the year 1774.

There is also a mine of cinnabar near Almaden, a village on the borders of the kingdom of Cordova, which is built almost entirely on this metal. The mine is sunk in the side of some sandy rocks, intersected with slate and iron, except at the top, where you see a rough mass of rocks, marked with the cinnabar. The two principal veins were formerly worked by the Romans, and pass all through the hill, and are from two to fourteen feet in breadth; they are called la mina del Pozo, and la mina del Castillo. And two leagues from thence is another vein, called la mina del Almadanejos. It is worked by galley-slaves, on account of the crown, and is very rich and abundant. Pieces are procured from it containing ten ounces of mercury in the pound. Masses are also found where mercury, iron, and sulphur are embodied together. Some beautiful pyrites, weighing three, six, eight, and ten pounds, are sometimes picked up; one lump is still preserved in the King's Museum at Madrid, weighing sixty pounds.

The little mountains of La Mancha produce a number of grindstones of a fine grain; those near Alcarez are coarser. The hills, in the neighbourhood of this village, are of red sand, which dissolves and forms an argillaceous earth.

Evident marks of fire are discovered among the rocks, and a number of heavy stones, of the colour of soot, within and without, are picked up on the road to Almaden, between Almagro and Corral d'Almaguer; they are supposed to have been produced by some volcano.

Mineral Waters. The water at Fuen Caliente, which is warm, is used both for drinking and bathing. Even the mud

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mud is serviceable. There are four springs of cold mineral waters in the Campo de Calatrava, the Gravatula, the Maesbanza, those of Puerto Uano, and the Nava. This latter is two leagues from Almagro. Two other springs, the Canalega and Buitre, are situated one near Almodovar del Campo, and the other a league from the village of Sancó, and five from Alcarez, on the top of the mountain of Navalenga, and is called by the inhabitants Fuen Santa. Notwithstanding the coldness of the water, there is a stone bath. In fact, the virtue of none of these waters is thoroughly understood; they have never been analyzed, and conjecture is the only ground for the properties which have been attributed to them; but it appears that the water of the Nava is impregnated with iron, and that of the Canalega, is saline and laxative.

In the neighbourhood of Alcazar de St. Juan is a salt marsh, called Laguna del cerro mesado.

The territory of Uclez contains a fountain, which gives rise to a river of that name. The waters are in continual agitation, accompanied with a rumbling sound.

The disappearance of the Guadiana is a phenomenon that ought to be mentioned. The sources of this river are in the Sierra d'Alcarez, three leagues from Lugar Nuevo; they produce lakes, the waters of which unite, and from thence flows the Guadiana. At about four leagues from these lakes it disappears in the meadows near Alcazar de St. Juan; and, re-appearing about five leagues further on, forms large pools (called the Eyes of the Guadiana) full of aquatic plants; the waters again unite, and once more give rise to the river; they are about two leagues distant from Fernan Cavallero, and one from Ciudad Real.

State of the Arts and Sciences. La Mancha is very backward in the cultivation of the arts and sciences. A few small schools of theology and peripatetic philosophy, kept in the convents, and some grammar-schools, at the expence of the muni-

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municipality, are the only places of instruction for the inhabitants. There is no establishment for the cultivation of the fine arts. Some time since, the king of Spain instituted a riding-school at Ocanna, which was suppressed in 1785. Nothing indeed, in this province, seems adapted either to ornament the mind, or to encourage industry.

This country has given birth to four distinguished theologians: Cyprian Saurez, and Christopher de Castro, at Ocanna; Benedict de Paredes, at Villatobas; and Juan Martinez, at Corral de Almaguer. The first two flourished about the close of the sixteenth century, and the last two in the seventeenth; they were all tolerable writers. Saurez, in addition to his professional labours, published a book on the Art of Rhetoric. Parades was a celebrated preacher, as well as Juan d'Avila, who was born at Almodovar del Campo, and dignified the pulpit in the sixteenth century. Among the learned of this province must be mentioned Oliva Sabuco de Nantes, a woman skilled in medicine and natural philosophy, and deeply read in morality and the rights of nations; she published a New System of Physiology and Medicine; she made nutrition depend on the nervous juice; and represented this fluid as the cause of all disorders; and, like Descartes, imagined the seat of the soul to be the brain. She flourished in the middle of the sixteenth century.

Character, Manners, and Customs. The manners of this province differ little from those of Castile. The people are more grave and solemn in their deportment, and more attached to ancient customs, etiquette, and old-fashioned ceremony, and their constitutions are more robust and fitter for labour; their temper in general is mild and peaceable, and they are truly good-humoured. Persons in the higher ranks pass their lives in ease and apathy; on the other hand, the common people are laborious and frugal; and both orders take no pleasure

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in any sort of dissipation, or even of diversion. Every thing is grave and formal.

The costume of all ranks of the people, in the principal towns of this district, are similar to those of New Castile. The peasant wears a close camisole of cloth, or leather, fastened with a leathern-girdle, and on his head a square cap rising to a point. The sides, which are turned up, continually beat against each other: it is made of cloth, or leather, and is called a montera.

The description of La Mancha cannot inspire the traveller with any desire to pass through it, as it affords no food for curiosity. It is a country left much to itself, but which might become interesting, if the bounty of government should ever be extended towards it.

PARTICULAR COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE IN SPAIN, AT PRESENT LITTLE KNOWN.

It seems necessary to add to the description of the different provinces of Spain, that of some districts it contains, of which the inhabitants have particular manners and customs.

Five different species of people are found in this kingdom, four of which are confined to certain cantons, while the fifth is spread over the whole Spanish monarchy. The four former are the Batuecas, the Vaqueras, the Maragatos, and the Patones; the last are the Gypsies. Many conjectures have been formed, and many fables invented about the whole five. The Patones have even, in our time, created a particular kingdom in the heart of Spain. It is of these Montesquieu is speaking, in the Persian Letters, where he says, that the Spaniards in their own country have districts they are not acquainted with.

Mention

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Mention is often made in Spain of the Majos and Majas. They are not a distinct people; but any individual, who is singular in his dress, tone, habits, or manners, is comprehended under this term. We have already spoken of them in Andalusia; but they will be again mentioned at the end of this chapter.

PEOPLE OF LAS BATUECAS.

Las Batuecas is the name of a little country inclosed and insulated by the lofty mountains of the bishopric of Coria, in the kingdom of Leon, near Pena de Francia, fourteen leagues from Salamanca, and eight from Castel Rodrigo. This valley is a league in length, surrounded on all sides with hard and rugged mountains of great heighth, full of flints, and watered by a little river, which bears the same name, and scarcely covers the stones through which it flows. In the winter season they only see the sun four hours a day.

It was the general opinion, that the people of that district had lived several centuries unknowing and unknown by the inhabitants of the surrounding country, and without the slightest communication with them. And a romantic story was added, that they had been discovered in the last century by two lovers, who, in seeking an asylum in the desert from the anger of their relations, penetrated by chance into the territory they inhabit.

This opinion was received by the people, transmitted from father to son, blindly adopted by some writers, and even followed by some historians and geographers, and was so propagated and preserved, that Thomas Corneille and Moreri have rendered it sacred by their writings; but its absurdity and falsity is now better understood. The learned Benedictine Feyjoo has proved, that the canton of las

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Batuecas and its inhabitants has always been known, even at the time Spain was under the Roman yoke. Thomas Sanchez had before opposed this opinion, at the close of the last century; he published at Madrid, in 1659, a work under the title of, Verdadera Relacion y Manifesto Apologetico de la Antiguedad de las Batuecas.

A number of fresh proofs may here be adduced: In 1559, the Carmelites established a convent of their order in this district; several title-deeds prove, that from time immemorial this valley belonged to, and formed a part of, the domain of Alberca, which is two leagues distant from it, and a mile from the top of the mountain; thence you descend by a road, which seems to be very ancient. The church of Alberca claims a right over the lands in this valley, of which the evidences go back as far as 1088.

VAQUEROS AND MARAGATOS.

The Vaqueros and Maragatos, though living far distant from each other, yet are much alike in several points.

The Vaqueros are in the province of Asturias; in winter they reside on the sea side, and in summer on the mountains of Leytariegos.

The Maragatos occupy the mountains, which are a continuation of the others, as far as Pravia, in the neighbourhood of Astorga, in Old Castile.

Both of them live apart from the rest of the world; they form, as it were, two casts or tribes; they marry only among themselves, each one in his own cast, and look down with a sort of contempt on those who espouse foreigners. The men are robust, and the women equally strong and courageous.

The Vaqueros are shepherds; their only labour is the care of their flocks, and their only food the produce of these animals; they lead a wandering life, and remove, like the

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the Nomades, from place to place, in search of fresh pastures.

The Maragatos are almost all arrieros, that is to say, carriers, or drivers of cattle, for the purpose of conveying burdens from one place to another. Their character is peculiar; they are lean, and slightly made, sincere, serious, and taciturn; they seldom laugh, and it is observed never sing, as they drive their beasts along the road.

These tribes, thus insulated, and concentrated in themselves, their manner of life and the uniformity of their occupations, exist from the highest antiquity. The origin of these people has been much discussed, without leading to more information, The dress of the Maragatos proves their antiquity; it is the same as that we see on the old coins of Spain. They wear a pyramidal hat, a jacket, which is a sort of short close coat, and a kind of ruff on the neck, large breeches, and polaynas, or gamaches, on their legs, a species of cloth boots, which reach below the knee, and are fastened with buttons. Such is the costume of a man on horseback, of which you see the impression on the Celtic coins, supposed to have been cast at the end of the Carthaginian government in Spain, and the beginning of the Roman power.

THE PATONES, AND KINGDOM OF PATONES.

This small kingdom, remarkable on account of its limited extent, its constitution, and more so on account of its duration, was founded, towards the eighth century, among the mountains of Old Castile. A few rocks, a small, barren, and mountainous territory, and a cone, formed by little mountains, forming a part of the inclosure of the valley of Torrelaguna, is the whole extent. It is situated in these mountains, within the corregidorship of Uzeda, one league from Torralaguna, and three from Molar; the entrance is through an aperture of the valley of Torralaguna,

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half a league from the village of that name, on the road from Madrid to La Granja and St. Ildefonso, between Fuencarrel and Torralaguna.

This little empire owed its origin to the terror inspired by the invasion of the Moors. The inhabitants of some of the neighbouring valleys took refuge in the heart of these mountains; there they secreted themselves from the researches and persecutions of the enemies of their country and religion. They enjoyed perfect tranquillity for a long succession of ages, and tasted the sweets of peace, at the time the rest of Spain was a prey to all the horrors of war. Hunting and fishing at first satisfied all their wants; in the course of time they came to cultivate corn, and keep a few goats. They chose a chief from among themselves, gave him the title of king, and rendered this dignity hereditary in his family. This sovereign assumed the name of king of Los Patones.

They were governed by this magistrate till the eighteenth century, following no other laws but those of nature and reason; he, however, recognized the sovereignty of the kings of Castile, after the expulsion of the Moors. The Spanish monarchs respected or tolerated this form of government, and when they sent their mandates, they addressed them to the king of the Patones.

The last of these kings, who lived in the middle of the eighteenth century, and whom some old men at Torralaguna remember to have seen carrying faggots in the village to sell, renounced his dignity. The Patones, without a chief, and deprived of their king, consented to submit to an officer appointed by the king of Spain, and were incorporated in the corregidorship of Uzeda, on which they now depend.

This people formerly lived more remote in the mountains, near a place called Prada, but insensibly approached towards the passes, where they now reside. Perhaps a freer communication with their neighbours accelerated the loss of their liberty.

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The Patones have always preserved the same manners and customs; to this day their only occupations are, the care of their lands, their goats, and their bees.

THE GYPSIES.

The Gypsies, or Bohemians, form a distinct class of citizens, mixing sometimes with the other inhabitants, but commonly keeping up no other communication but what interest obliges, having peculiar manners, customs, and language, and distinct habitations. They were formerly known in France, Germany, and Italy, but have now almost disappeared from these countries, and are naturalized in Spain. They go under the name of Zigeiner in Germany; the French called them successively Hungarians, Egyptians, and Bohemians; they are known in England by the title of Gypsies; and in Spain by that of Gitanos.

Their first appearance is said to have been made in the year 1417; but if we examine into antiquity, we shall, perhaps, find a much more ancient origin for this singular people, who have rendered themselves formidable during so long a time.

May not one find it in that numerous horde of mendicants of both sexes, who infested Italy on a sudden, at the time of the Roman republic; they were an unknown wandering people, without house or lodging, and with a peculiar language. They demanded alms with arrogance, and menaced those who refused it with blindness, in the name of Isis, or to give them the terrible disease known by the name of the tympany of Pelusus. * The Romans called

* This disorder was epidemic at Pelusus, in Egypt, on the eastern bank of the Pelusian Gulph. This tympanite was accompanied with a peculiar species of madness; those who were attacked with it thought they were possessed with a devil; the scille, or marine onion, prepared in a certain method, was the remedy for it. From Pelusium came those little statues, which are found in museums, of which the body, and particularly the belly, are puffed out; they represent demons, and not gods, as has been erroneously supposed.

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it *incutere deos instantes corpora*. The inhabitants of that wonderful city stood in great terror of their imprecations, and some superstitious persons made use of garlick or leeks as a talisman against them.

A fresh horde, with nearly the same customs and manners, appeared in Europe in the fourteenth century, and called themselves Egyptians. They did not demand alms, but obliged all they met to have their fortunes told, and give them money as a reward; they threatened to inflict the leprosy on all who refused, and began to steal wherever they went. These new banditti infested several parts of Europe, but Bavaria was the country where they inspired the most terror; no one dared touch or look at them; whatever they demanded was given; they were even permitted to steal with impunity. Aventin, in his annals, draws a dreadful picture of them. *

Their number insensibly increased; they divided into several troops, which spread all at once, in 1417, over different parts of Europe; France, Germany, and Spain, were principally infested. They always called themselves Egyptians, and pretended that they made a penitential pilgrimage to expiate the crimes of their ancestors; but they did not agree on the nature of those crimes; according to some, their ancestors had abandoned the Christian faith; according to others, they had refused an asylum to the Virgin Mary, when she fled into Egypt.

At first, it seems, all these wretches were of the same nation, but they received insensibly into their troops persons of all countries, rogues, vagabonds, criminals, and malefactors; idleness procured them many proselytes; it was then chiefly that they spread themselves like a torrent.

Some of the contemporary writers speak of them with dread, others with indignation. Aventino del Rio, Sebastian Mun-

* In a German work, written in 1780, it is said, that this people proceeds from an emigration of Indians, driven by the conquests of Tamerlane as far as Europe; the proofs that he brings bear the appearance of probability.

tero,

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tero, and several other authors, describe them as having barbarous and repulsive visages, ill-cloathed, wandering unceasingly from one country to another, stealing every thing that came in their way; telling fortunes by palmistry, and receiving money for it, and living without any religion. All kinds of vices, and all sorts of crimes, are attributed to them. They have been represented as sorcerers, knowing and speaking all the languages of Europe.

This class is extinct in Germany, but still exists in Bohemia and Hungary. In 1780 they were reckoned at 294 families in Bohemia, and about 50,000 individuals in Hungary. Some years ago an attempt was made in the latter country to induce them to abandon their unsettled life; and it appears, succeeded. The severity of the French laws, against vagrants, had driven them out of that kingdom long before. It seems as if they were settled and multiplied in Spain; they infest the whole of that kingdom, particularly its southern provinces, and swarm in Andalusia, Murcia, and Estremadura.

The Gypsies in Spain lead a wandering and vagabond life, possessing neither house nor land, never remaining long in one place, having no abode or asylum. Many live in huts built in the thickest part of the forest, and make it a place of refuge in time of danger. They always wander in troops of ten or twelve, and sometimes assemble in greater numbers. They often hold numerous meetings in the middle of the fields, or woods.

In the country they steal fruit from gardens, and fowls from the barn-yards.

They stop travellers on the road, and demand alms; they oblige them to have their fortunes told, and pay them, and then pick the pockets of the unwary, a trade in which they are very expert and adroit; sometimes they absolutely strip passengers. The women in general address strangers; their

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conversation is bold and licentious in the extreme, and coarse to the highest pitch of impudence.

They frequently enter villages, and nothing is safe from their rapacity; their arrival is the signal of terror. The house-doors are instantly shut, and the women and children run to hide themselves.

The trades they exercise are suspicious; they are receivers of stolen goods, regraters, pimps, and smugglers; their bargains always turn to their own advantage; they are cunning, clever, and imposing. Sometimes they take a decided tone, and sometimes assume a mild and persuasive manner.

They all speak Spanish, although they have a particular language of their own: a jargon composed of an incongruous mixture of vulgar and ill pronounced words, and have private signals, known only to themselves.

They do not appear to have any religion; their marriages are made by a simple contract, without any civil formality or religious ceremony; many of them are ignorant whether they have ever been baptized.

They have continued the race from father to son, and by attracting a number of other beggars and vagrants; and in this manner their tribe is preserved and maintained.

The gypsies are active, robust, and inured to fatigue; their countenances are expressive and animated, and their speech quick and voluble. They lye with impudence, and too often succeed in giving their falsehoods a persuasive and ingenuous air. In a word, they give one the idea of most finished and skilful knaves, whose whole art consists in making dupes.

It is with reason that Father Sarmiento has called them vagrants, beggars, and cheats, Jews in heart, and Christians in appearance, Egyptians by their impostures, rogues by profession, almost leperous, and fœtid with filth.

They

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They easily find protectors in the country gentlemen and nobility of small cities, who do not scruple to acknowledge them for relations: they support and defend them, and afford them an asylum from the pursuit of justice and government, and are in their turn protected by them.

This dangerous and destructive race, which ought to have been extirpated long ago, was tolerated even in our days; but at length a very severe edict of king Charles the Third absolutely proscribed them for some years, and was executed very rigorously. The choice was given to all, without exemption of age or sex, of settling in any city or village, and to reside there. A great number left the country; others obeyed, and were dispersed among the different towns, where they were forced to carry on some trade, and were not allowed to absent themselves for any continuance, or without the permission of the governor, corregidor, or alcade.

They are but little esteemed at present, but are easily recognized where they are settled; they preserve their language, manners, address, and cunning; are clothed in a manner peculiar to themselves, and prosecute trades analogous to their ancient genius, and those in which it is most easy to cheat; such as regraters, jockies, dealers in mules, publicans, and tavern-keepers. They herd together, and are avoided by the rest of mankind, who treat them with mistrust and contempt.

These people often form one of the principal pleasures of the Spanish theatre. "They perform," says Mr. Bourgoing, "characters, interesting from their originality and resemblance to the models of which they are copies. The consequence is, that they familiarize the minds of the spectators to vice, by concealing its deformity under the appearance of gaiety. They are, if the expression may be allowed, the shepherds of the Spanish stage, less insipid indeed, but less distinguished than ours. Their roguery, plots, and amorous intrigues, are the subjects of many songs and ballads."

MAJOS.

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MAJOS AND MAJAS.

The Majos and Majas have already been mentioned in the description of Andalusia. I shall only add to this the picture drawn by Mr. Bourgoing, which I shall give in his own words.

"The Majos are a kind of coxcombs of the lower class, "or rather bullies, who display in their exterior de- "portment a cold and grave pomposity. They make use "of an accent, dress, and gestures, peculiar to themselves, "their face half concealed under a cap of brown stuff, "called montera, * wears a severe and threatening ex- "pression, or displays a bad temper, which appears to set "at defiance those of whom it should stand in awe, and "does not relax even in the company of a mistress. The "officers of justice scarcely dare to attack them; and "the women are terrified at their repulsive aspect. If any "one dares to provoke them even in jest, an angry move- "ment, a blustering look, and sometimes a long rapier, or "a dagger, concealed under their wide mantles, cautions "him not to venture upon too much familiarity.

"On the other hand, the Majas imitate these caprices "as far as the weakness of their means will allow. They "seem to study effrontery; the licentiousness of their man- "ners is evident from their attitudes, behaviour, and con- "versation; but if you attend the theatre, † where they "manifest less scrupulous inclinations, when you are fa- "miliarized with a mode of life so unsuitable to the virtues "of their sex, and the more certain methods of inspiring "love in ours, they are very seductive; their impudent and "piquant gestures, and allurements, create a disorder in "the senses, from which the wisest can scarcely protect

* A large round hat, with a broad turned-up brim.

† They are frequently introduced on the stage.

"himself,

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" himself, and which, if they do not inspire love, at least " afford a promise of pleasure.

" Yet the most lax moralist must regret, that the Majos " and Majas are introduced on the stage, and preserve their " attraction even among the higher circles. In other coun- " tries the lower classes have a pride of aping their supe- " riors. In Spain, in some respects, the case is reversed. " There are some persons of both sexes, of distinguished " rank, who select for their models some of these heroes of " the populace, and imitate their dress, manners, and ac- " cent, and are flattered at hearing it said of them; *He has* " *very much the appearance of a Majo; I should take you for* " *a Maja; you are a Maja.* This is, without any equiva- " lent, renouncing the superiority which belongs to one sex, " and the modesty which forms the principal charm of the " other.

GIBRALTAR.

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GIBRALTAR.

Itinerary from Malaga to Gibraltar, by the Sea Side, twenty Leagues.

Malaga.	
(al Puente del Rey.)	
Alhaurin, a village	3 leagues.
Marvella, a town	5
Estepona, a town	5
Venta Guayaro	4
Gibraltar, town and fort	3

On leaving Malaga, you cross the Guadal Medina, a river which often overflows and injures those parts of the town nearest to it, and follow the miserable road leading to Puente del Rey. The projected bridge would be very useful to the town of Malaga. In the winter season it is the only passage by which the river can be crossed. The continual inundations render it impossible to ford, or to make use of a boat. It is much to be lamented, that this bridge is not finished. It is proceeded with so slowly, that the floods destroy the unfinished work, and bring fresh expences on the city, accompanied with repeated dearth of provisions.

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From the want of this communication, you must cross as you can, trusting to the skill, or rather temerity, of four or five villagers, who point out the most fordable places to travellers, and thus save the trouble of fetching the boat, which, half the year, is of no use.

You continue your journey by a bad road as far as the orchards of Alhaurinejo. You meet with some well cultivated land, but much more fallow; and, after travelling two leagues between hills, covered with palm-trees and a variety of shrubs, enter Alhaurin, where the whole scene is changed.

Alhaurin is situated on a gentle rise, among more lofty eminences. It is impossible to describe the beauty of the numberless shrubberies and streams of water flowing through different channels, which form a delicious scene. The thickness of the foliage gives a delightful coolness, even during the burning heat of summer, and at all hours of the day. In the hot season the inhabitants prefer this spot to all the surrounding villages. Unfortunately, the road to it is not convenient for carriages. It has often been in contemplation to make a good road, but it has not been done, notwithstanding the ease and small expence with which the plan might be carried into execution. This town would derive great advantage from it, by the facility of carrying fruit to a good market, and the number

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number of rich citizens of Malaga who would fix their residences there in the spring and summer. The village of Alhaurin contains one thousand inhabitants, one parish church, a convent of Franciscans, built in a delightful situation, and a manufactory of good hard soap, part of which is consumed in the neighbourhood, and the rest exported to America. This branch of commerce, and the fruit sold at Malaga, constitute the principal wealth of the inhabitants.

The next five leagues to Marvella are very uninteresting. Nothing is to be seen but precipices and barren land, and we scarcely perceive any traces of habitations. There are only two or three farms in all these mountains; the first is el Puerto de Gomez; and the other las Chapas de Marvella. However, the soil produces an abundance of shrubs, plants, and flowers, which cover the hills. Sage, thyme, marjoram, lavender, myrtle, and rosemary, more than six feet high, embalm the air on all sides. You often feel tempted to delay your journey among plants, many of which are unknown, and would be curious objects for the attention of the botanist. Unfortunately, this fertile land remains wild and uncultivated. A few vines are planted on the declivities facing the sea, but they are not numerous. Every one who crosses these mountains must regret that colonies are not planted on the sides, who would improve the

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the land. A number of bees might be kept, and the soil abounds in cork and other trees fit for hives. They might also feed large herds of cattle, or flocks of sheep; or, if they did not chuse to turn them to this advantage, they might plant firs, or other building-trees, which, by being neglected, are very dear in Spain. But territorial jurisdiction and private jealousies would oppose those who wished to turn these lands to account; for ignorance and envy accompany each other. All along the coast, as far as Marvella, Martello towers are established about half a league from each other, to give speedy intelligence of whatever occurs on the coast.

Marvella is situated on the sea shore, at the foot of some arid mountains, and contains eleven hundred inhabitants. To judge from the number of houses fallen into ruins, and the extent of the walls, part of which still remain, and are more than a mile in circumference, the population has been much greater. The sea is on the south, and on the north the mountains of Marvella, on which a few vines are planted. This town has one parish church, two monasteries, a hospital (St. John the Baptist,) two schools, a mansion-house, and a prison. On the shore a bastion, mounted with two pieces of ordnance, is erected for the defence of the bay, where no large ship can cast anchor; on the east and west

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west sides of the town are some kitchen-gardens. The inhabitants derive their subsistence from fishing, and the produce of a limited agriculture. Of course the population consists of a few persons who farm their own estates, some fishermen, whose whole fortune is their boats, and several day labourers. The consequence of this inattention to husbandry is poverty, and the only trade which enriches the district is the working of the sugar-canes.

The sugar-cane is a native of the East Indies. According to history, it was transplanted into Egypt, where the Venetians extracted the juice, and refined it. The cultivation of the cane was introduced into Sicily, and carried from thence to the coast of Granada. When the Moors were driven from that kingdom in the year 1483, no less than fourteen plantations, large and small, were discovered, and two mills for grinding it. It appears probable, that, when America was discovered by the Spaniards, they carried the plant thither, which afterwards spread as far as the Gulph of Mexico. This valuable branch of husbandry, established in Granada, whether from want of hands, occasioned by the emigration of those who achieved the conquest of America, the ignorance and poverty of those who remained, or the frosts which set in in Spain at this period, experienced a number of vicissitudes. However, the

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the cultivation of the cane received fresh vigour from the dearness of sugar, arising from the long wars. Several mills were, by degrees, established (some of which were worked by water, and others by mules) at Adra, Motril, Salobrena, Almunecar, Mato, Nerja, Frigiliana, Churriana, Torre Molinos, Mijas, Castillo del Fuengirola, Marvella, and Manilba, which are still in use, though not so much as formerly. We shall notice those at Manilba. In the public records of this city, it will be found, that the crop of sugar-canes was an important object. But as the knowledge of chemistry had not extended as far as that country, those who employed their land in the cultivation of this plant pursued the old method without any inquiry, and did not attempt to bring it to perfection. In 1644, Gaspard Pampes, a Flemish merchant, and Matthew Verte, obtained a charter from the town of Marvella to establish a manufactory there, and accordingly built one at the foot of Mount Juanar, which continued in their families until the end of the tenth century. At length it fell into the hands of Benedict de Castro, who purchased it. A short time afterwards he was denounced to the inquisition, and proved to be a Jew. In 1710 he was conveyed to Granada, where he died, and his goods were confiscated. The establishment was continued, and, in 1767, was sold to an

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inhabitant of Puerto de Santa Maria, who could not carry it on for want of money, so that it fell totally into ruins, till Mr. Grivegnu, an owner of land at Malaga, wishing to bring back so profitable a branch of commerce to Marvella, which became poorer every day, obtained a patent from the king for re-building this sugar-mill, with the same privileges and conditions granted by the city in 1644; and, in 1800, he began the undertaking, without sparing any expence, to put it in its present state. The establishment consists of one water-mill, and another worked by oxen, and forms a most ingenious piece of mechanism. They differ from other mills in Spain, in having an iron screw fixed in the centre cylinder, which not only gives the greatest firmness and durability to the machine, but avoids the flaws and breakages incident to those which strike with collateral wheels by means of cogs. The mill-stones turn with such rapidity, that, in the space of twenty four hours, they grind 2800 arobas of canes, whilst, in the other mills on the coast, they can grind only half that quantity in the same time. The furnaces, over which the cauldrons are placed, are reflectors, which increase the heat to a much higher degree, and save half the quantity of wood. This manufactory is carried on according to the French and English method. No means have been neglected to give the sugar a fine

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a fine grain, and render it more proper for refining. This establishment is still in its infancy, the proprietor being obliged to do all himself, for the land-owners form their plantations very slowly. However, he intends, on his own account, to lay out sufficient ground to produce, on an average, 10,000 arobas of sugar a year, and 12,000 of syrup.

All the rest of the land in this district is uncultivated, except forty kitchen gardens, some vineyards, and ploughed ground, lying to the east and west, between the rivers Real and Guadaisa; the remainder consists of nothing but mountains and palm-trees.

But these mountains are of great use to the inhabitants of Marvella, from the quantity of nuts and acorns they produce, and which amount to 200,000 arobas a year. The coal, timber, cork-trees, and bark, as well as similar productions in other places, are all employed by the Admiralty, according to the royal proclamation respecting mountains and forests in the year 1748, and form a fund, which supplies the corporation of the town with whatever is wanting. But as they are obliged to address themselves to the ministry to recover what they claim, they are frequently driven to great expence to obtain permissions, or revoke those which are injurious. The consequences are prejudicial to the public; they form no useful establishment, and do not

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repair those they already have; so that, in time, the small towns will be nothing more than a collection of huts, without any convenience or neatness. The inhabitants would be affluent and happy, if they were allowed to cultivate their mountains without restriction, which are covered with shrubs and trees six leagues in extent, and separated from the chain of Ronda. This is all the territory belonging to the city, since losing a piece of ground six leagues also in extent, which was adjudged to the house of Luque in 1789. If this town received all the benefit, of which it is capable from such a permission, it would be worth 100,000 reals a year, and this revenue might be employed in constructing a number of buildings it now wants.

Marvella is situated in a bay. The idea of forming a quay there has frequently been in contemplation; but, notwithstanding the facility of the execution, and advantage to be derived from it, has been as often abandoned. At one time the city was in possession of sufficient funds to carry on the work. But as private jealousies disturb all communities, the consequence was, that government laid claim to the money for the exigencies of the state. The inhabitants employ twenty barks, in conveying leather, charcoal, wood, wine, dried raisins, and black stone, (piedra lapiz), &c. to Cadiz, Malaga, and Ceuta. To these they may sometimes add the

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the juniper-berries, which the mountains produce in great profusion, and of which the English consume a great quantity in their dyes.

The next five leagues, from Marvella to Estepona, run across a flat country. The road is about a quarter of a mile from the sea, and lies from east to west. The sea is on the south; and, on the north, a chain of mountains joins to that of Ronda. You perceive, on an eminence from the road, a quarry of lapis, or slates, which have been mentioned before. All this district is barren, except about a league between the rivers Guadaisa and Gualmina, which is finely cultivated, and laid out for sugar-canes. This beautiful cultivation, including the nursery-gardens at Estepona, which begin at the river Valerin, extends half a league further. All the rest is waste fallow, and used only for grazing.

The road is intersected by several brooks and rivers; in the winter it is quite impassable, and occasions a number of accidents. The rivers are called Rio Verde, Guadaisa, Gualmina, and the brooks dos Hermanos, Tarage, Gualmaza, las Canas, Belerin, Castor, Padron, Tala, and several others, amounting in the whole to fourteen.

The town of Estepona is situated at the foot of the Sierra Vermeja, on the sea-shore; it presents a number of elegant houses in front of

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the sea. The inhabitants, in number about two thousand five hundred, consist of fishermen, farmers, graziers, day-labourers, and a few factors; it owes its populousness to the ruin and desertion of Marvella. The situation, it is true, is inviting; the district is five square leagues, and the lands on the mountain a mile in extent; the vineyards adjacent produce a strong excellent wine, some bees, and in some parts they grow fern, which serves both for pasturage and fuel. The plain produces vegetables, figs, oranges, lemons, and several other fruits. The revenues of the city amount to three thousand five hundred reals a year; it contains one parish, a monastery of Franciscans, and an hospital, which is small, and badly arranged. Of late years the population has considerably increased, and the ancient boundaries now stand in the middle of the city. The inhabitants possess sixty packets, of from twenty-five to thirty tons burthen, employed to carry fruit to Cadiz, Isla, Malaga, and other places along the coast. The trade of the place consists of three tile kilns, three potteries, and about twenty looms for making household linen. A slate quarry was discovered about ten years ago, a league and a half on the north of Estepona, in the domain of Benejavi, but no use is made of it.

After leaving this place, you meet with no accommodation till you come to the inn at Guayaro,

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Guayaro, about five leagues further; you perceive on the right, across the mountains, the town of Manilva, belonging to the house of Arcos; it is surrounded with vineyards, which produce an exquisite red wine, known by the name of Manilva wine.

A quarter of a league from hence is a spring of hot water, called by the people of this country Puantes; it possesses the same qualities as those of Carratraca, seven leagues from Malaga, commonly called inflammable. The good effects produced by the waters ought to attract more visitors; they are beneficial in all scorbutic complaints, but are quite neglected, like the rest of this sort in Spain; in their composition the sulphur predominates. The invalids, who come to drink the waters, are obliged to build huts for their accommodation. The two baths are covered in, and separated for the men and women.

On leaving Manilva, you cross the Guadier, in a boat, and pursue the road to Gibraltar, between mountains, covered on each side with shrubs of all sorts. The three leagues from the Venta to this place are very long; the road leads to St. Roche, but there is a path cut across the mountains, on the left of the road, direct to Gibraltar.

Before you arrive there, you pass over a very sandy and fatiguing isthmus; the sand in some

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parts is a foot and a half, and in others as much as five feet deep. It is worth observing, that the isthmus is much higer towards the south than on the side of the bay. The furious easterly winds, to which this coast is exposed, are the cause of it, and the consequence is, that the waves carry a large quantity of sand on the shore of the Mediterranean; lessening at the same time that of the bay, towards the west. From this isthmus to the sea, on the west, extends the fortified line of Spain, intersecting this isthmus or neck of land, which joins the rock to the continent for more than half a mile. The line is made with walls, defended at the eastern point by the castle of St. Barbe, and on the opposite side by that of St. Philip. Here is the last Spanish custom-house, where the traveller is obliged to undergo a most rigorous search. After leaving this line, to go to the town of Gibraltar, you pass over half a league of sandy ground, called neutral territory; this place serves as a lounge for the officers of the garrison, and the fishermen anchor their boats there. The attention is attracted by a number of lakes, the principal of which was dug by the English, and is situated before the gate: they will, perhaps, some day or other, produce the natural destruction of the isthmus, and insulate the rock. In the mean time, they have rendered the

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entry doubly difficult; for this neck of land being narrowed by the waters of the bay on one side, and those of the lake on the other, there is no passage by land but over a causeway, exposed to the fire of all the batteries on the north side of the place.

On arriving at the end of the dike, towards the foot of the rock, and looking up the rugged and almost perpendicular ascent, one would think, from the number of holes placed in parallel lines up to the top, every one of which presents the mouth of a cannon, that it was entirely hollow.

DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIPTION OF GIBRALTAR.

This rock forms a promontory from Spain into the sea, opposite another promontory extending from Africa, with a small space between them, through which the ocean unites with the Mediterranean: the French call it Le Detroit de Gibraltar; in Latin it is named Fretum Herculaneum, or Gaditaneum; and in Spanish Estrecho de Gibraltar. The length is about eight leagues, and breadth, in the narrowest parts, nearly five. On these two promontories the famous mountains of Calpe, in Europe, and Abila, in Africa, are placed, known to the ancients by the name of the Pillars of Hercules. Gibraltar is the name of a mountain, consisting of immense rocks, as well as of the town at the bottom, and the straits which have just been described.

The promontory is joined to Spain by a neck of land, so narrow, that from some aspects the rock has the appearance of an island; it is said to be more than seven thousand feet above the level of the sea.

The name Gibraltar is derived from Gebel, an Arabic word, signifying mountain, and Tarik,

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Tarik, a Moorish general, who conquered Spain and disembarked near this place. This spot is one of the most remarkable in history. The origin and foundation of the town are lost in the obscurity of time; the people took more pains to preserve an old tradition, than to retain the ancient manners, which would have assisted in discovering the source from whence they sprung. It is certain that the Phœnicians, the Egyptians, and other people of antiquity, landed at Gibraltar; and the name of the Pillars of Hercules, by which this place was known, is nothing more than a tradition preserved among the Phœnicians, who came to people this coast, and brought their gods and religious worship with them. But it is not known whether the straits or columns existed in the remotest antiquity, and if the inscription, non plus ultra, meant that nothing was more wonderful than the separation of the two continents, or, as is more probable, that no one had dared navigate beyond; but all these conjectures must be left to criticism to decide, and we must be content with the received opinions. Probably the first navigators of the Mediterranean landed at Gibraltar, or the environs; this opinion is supported by the authority of Pomponius Mela, who being born at Cadiz, may be supposed to feel more interest than others in whatever related to this coast.

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From the top of the promontory of Calpe, or Gibraltar, the eye wanders over an extent of forty leagues, two seas, and five kingdoms, Seville and Granada, in Spain; and Barbary, Fez, and Morocco, in Africa; the ascent is by a rough and narrow path; on the opposite side the rock appears inaccessible. You endeavour to trace the towns of which Mela, Strabo, and Pliny, speak, under the names of Calpe, Cartheya, Melaria, Belo, and Besipo, and lastly, the promontory of Juno, situated from east to west, on the shore of the straits; but, except the mountain and site of Cartheya, you do not perceive a single vestige. This latter city passed from the hands of the Phœnicians into those of the Carthaginians, and is now reduced into a mere heap of ruins, scarcely perceptible, in the bay of Gibraltar, where the Carthaginian tower was also situated. This ground is now occupied by a miserable farm.

On casting your eyes over the kingdoms of Granada and Seville, you see the lofty ridges of the desert del Cuervo, as well as the mountains of Hogen and Sanorra, and towards the east, opposite Gibraltar, the new town of Algeziras. In the middle of this inclosure you distinguish the ruins of Great Cartheya; at a short distance, on a little hill, the town of St. Roche is situated; on the east you perceive the chain of mountains, called the Sierra de Ronda, abounding

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in fruits and aromatic plants. Near there stood the town of Munda, so celebrated in Roman history, as the scene of the battle between the sons of Pompey and Augustus, when they were disputing the empire of the world. You discover something of Marvella, and the little tower of Estepona. The objects which bound the horizon on the right, are the Sierra Nevada and the Alpujarras; the snow lies all the year; the utmost heat of the sun has not yet penetrated the accumulated layers. The mountains spout forth a number of fountains and rivulets of clear water, forming the source of the Xenil and the Darro; rivers which water the city of Granada, and give fertility to the rich province of Andalusia.

Gibraltar is 5200 varas (yards) long, and 1500 broad, in the widest part; the perpendicular height is 500, and the circumference, including the moles, angles, and bays, 13,200. The rock is completely beset with batteries, thrown up at all points where they could not render the ascent completely inaccessible; so that from Europa point, which advances farthest into the sea on the south side, to the highest part of the rock, which is that of the north, (at about two miles distance from the other,) there is not a single point which has not been put in a defensible condition. On the side nearest Spain, the internal fortifications, made since the time

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time Gibraltar was besieged by the combined armies of France and Spain, are astonishing. These improvements are due to general O'Hara, the late governor; a great number of workmen were employed about it for eight years, and doubtless with immense expence. To give an idea of the labour, it will be sufficient to mention that the excavations, effected by the force of gunpowder in the centre of the mountain, and in the solid rock, form vaults of such height and extent, that during a siege they can contain the whole garrison.

These caverns, the most considerable of which is the hall of St. George, communicate with the other batteries, established all along the mountains, by a winding road, and passable throughout on horseback, which must have cost an immense sum of money. It is impossible to restrain your admiration at the execution of so bold, I may add so useless, an undertaking, since the lower batteries, situated on the same point, on the exterior of the rock, are a sufficient defence without this collection of cannons suspended in the air in the higher batteries, the fire of which enfiladed all the approaches of the enemy along the ground, while the others direct their fire from a height, and do but little execution.

On returning towards Europa point, as you enter the town, your attention is again struck by

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by considerable fortifications, barracks, magazines, and batteries, placed every where that the nature of the ground will admit. On the highest point of land the tower of St. George was built, under the directions of general O'Hara; his intention was to raise it to a sufficient height to command the whole of Cadiz, and observe all that passed in that port; but the English government did not approve of the undertaking, which is therefore left in an unfinished state, and O'Hara has been obliged to defray the expences already incurred out of his own pocket.

Along the mountain you perceive several grottos, or natural excavations; that of St. Michael is the most famous; the height of the entrance is four hundred and thirty-seven varas and a half above the level of the sea. The cavern below is at least seventy feet; a rope is fastened round your body as you descend; it contains columns of chrystalization and stalectites, imitating all the orders of architecture. The water filtering on all sides has framed on the walls, and around, a profusion of ornaments of every sort.

A hundred paces from its gate is another beautiful cavern, sixty-five varas square, and the vault twenty-one varas high. On the right is an opening, or second excavation, adorned with the same caprices of nature, but with so much regularity

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regularity, that it has the appearance of a temple. Perhaps it was formerly made use of for consulting some oracle, probably that of Hercules, who was the principal divinity of the place, as well as of the cave in the promontory of Ampelusia, on the coast of Africa *. From the entry of this cavern you discover the whole of the bay of Gibraltar; you command a view of the country-houses, the flower and kitchen-gardens, which the inhabitants have formed, one above the other, on the side of the mountain, up to the royal road, and the public walk, extending for about half a mile from the town of Gibraltar to the new town on the south.

It is impossible to do justice to the taste and magnificence of the English, on seeing the care with which they have embellished the rock; they have spared nothing to cover it with trees and flowers, to support the earth with walls and other props, to cut a number of roads through the solid rock, and make them passable on horseback and in carriages up to the very top; they have even sown some artificial meadows for their flocks; an excellent example to the Spaniards, who could obtain, with much more facility, the same advantages in their fertile country. From the grotto of St. Michael you discover the magazines, the batteries, the new town; on the south, the ma-

* Vide Pomponius Mela.

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fine hospital, a handsome and commodious building. The view extends over a number of country-houses, to some of which beautiful gardens are attached; in time these new building will form a town, as considerable as that of Gibraltar. Near there are eight magnificent cisterns, large enough to contain 40,000 tuns of water. These cisterns are bomb proof; they receive all the water which flows down the side of the mountain, previously purified in coppers erected for the purpose. The English have formed a project of building over these cisterns an edifice to keep every thing necessary for victualling ships; and the hospital, as well as the artillery park, being near, they could then instantly refit a squadron with every thing it might want.

On the south side you perceive a number of mountains, called Tarfes, divided into upper and lower; near them a very ancient tower, with a cistern and well, formerly stood. In a cave in the neighbourhood several stones have been found, with human bones above the common size, so strongly incrusted in them as to form one solid mass.

From Europa point to the gate on the land side are several moles, which facilitate the unloading of ships, and enable them to cast anchor in greater security; yet they are constantly at work upon them, as well as upon the

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fortifications, to which they are adding something every day.

Before you arrive at the south gate you observe a large and handsome square, surrounded with trees, now called the Field of Mars, formerly the Red Sand; the size is such, that the 6000 men, of which the garrison commonly consists, can perform their manœuvres without inconvenience. It is there the guard always musters, and on Sundays and holidays they make it the grand parade. The English troops carry neatness and military precision to such excess, that it appears inconvenient and ridiculous to those who have served in armies less particular in these respects. It is the same with the regularity of their buildings, and the useless labour of their defensive works; they have more the appearance of the park and palace of a sovereign, than a fortified town: the lines, embrasures, and keys of the arches, are cut with inconceivable regularity, in large and hard blocks of stone, and all the military utensils are brought to similar perfection. Notwithstanding the multiplied means of defence in Gibraltar, the place is not impregnable on the sea-side; and the King's bastion, on which M. D'Arçon directed his floating batteries, seems to me the true point of attack. Since the last siege, they have increased the works of this line; but such as they now are, they are not

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not proportioned to the others, and the means that might be opposed to it, if the besiegers were masters of the sea, and directed the enterprize better.

The prevailing religions are the Catholic, the church of England, and the Jewish; each of them has its own burying-ground, among the sandy earth of the mountain. It is observed, that there is less order and propriety among the tombs of the Catholics than those of the church of England, where they have each a stone tablet, with a laconic and expressive inscription. The Jews observe the same custom, but the Spaniards do not appear to have treated these monuments with the same religious respect. *

The town of Gibraltar is on the west side at the foot of the mountain; it is large, well built, fortified with strong walls, bastions, and works to cover them; a large fort protects and masks the mole, built in the form of a bridge, three hundred feet long; a church, consecrated to our Lady of Europe, is built near it, and on the land side is another mole, which covers the port, fortified by a fort with a tower, and two or three breast-works thrown up in front.

On entering the town by the south gate, you perceive on the left an edifice, containing the library of the officers of the garrison; the col-

* I quote the very expression of Mr. De Beramendi, a Spaniard, from whom I have copied several observations in this article.

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lection is good, especially of modern authors. The officers had determined to raise a magnificent building of free-stone, by subscription, in the centre of the place, to establish the library there; but the English government, hearing of this institution, determined to defray the expence.

The governor's house is built on the ground formerly occupied by the convent of Franciscans; there is a charming garden attached to it, which on Thursday and Sunday evenings, during the summer, is the promenade of the officers of the garrison and the inhabitants of the city. On leaving the governor's house, you enter the principal street, where all the merchants reside, and leave the Catholic chapel on the right, which has been rebuilt in an excellent style of architecture; this street extends almost the whole length of the city, it is more than half a mile long, and on each side are handsome flat pavements, and an infinity of shops from one end to the other. It is impossible to describe the incessant noise made by the carts, full of merchandize, and all classes of people, who are continually passing and repassing all day long. All the houses are built in the English style, with small doors, flat roofs, and particularly with enormous bow-windows, behind which the prime goods of all sorts are exposed to sale. It is difficult to understand how

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how so much merchandize is disposed of in so small a place, insulated on all sides, and without any open communication with Spain, or any export trade. The greater part of the inhabitants are military; the commerce with Africa is neither certain nor regular; and although the contraband traffic with Spain, both in money and goods, is one of their principal branches of trade, that cannot be sufficient to indemnify England for a million and a half of piastres, which on an average it costs annually to maintain this point in the Mediterranean, where in other respects the duties collected are very small. The importance of Gibraltar is therefore founded rather on national vanity, than on any real benefit. This place is advantageously situated for victualling the fleets, and the protection of the coast of Africa, from whence the English procure their corn, and as a place of refuge for their privateers. Its port is the key to the Mediterranean and the Atlantic; consuls from all the states of Europe and North America reside there. The Americans, as well as the Swedes, Danes, and Dutch, carry on a direct commerce with Gibraltar; by taking up there the articles they want, and leaving in exchange snuff, cod, pitch and tar, masts, rum, maize, rice, flour, sugar, pepper, ginger, cotton, anniseed, and the other articles of commerce, which they procure from Asia, Africa,

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and Europe. The coasts of Granada, Seville, and Catalonia, furnish wine, and Africa wax and fresh meat in great quantities; they also import from Spain brandy, raisins, almonds, oranges, silks, lemons, salt, &c. which the vessels from the north carry back in exchange. However, notwithstanding the value of these different productions of the peninsula, the contraband merchandize which the English furnish, especially cotton and snuff, turn the scale considerably in their favour.

This contraband trade is carried on here in the same scandalous manner as on the frontiers of Portugal and France.

However, it must be acknowledged, that lately more precautions have been taken in this respect, and more opposition made to this smuggling. Several king's ships, called guarda-costas, are employed to prevent it, which are continually cruizing from the bay of Algeziras, before all the Spanish ports in the Mediterranean. There are also some companies of Catalonian light troops stationed along the roads and footways on the coast leading to Gibraltar; they pursue smugglers with activity, and oblige them to shew their passports, and by searching them with the most minute attention and questioning them adroitly, detect the impositions they practise. The vigilance with which these men conduct themselves, as well as

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the commandant of the district, who is placed at the last office along the line, is beyond description; the trappings of the horses, and the clothes of the men, even the soals of their shoes, do not escape examination; by these means much money has been seized, for no one is allowed to carry more cash out of the country than appears necessary for the time mentioned in the passport, obtained from the commandant-general of the line, residing at Algeziras.

Gibraltar contains altogether nine thousand inhabitants, including eight regiments, amounting to six thousand men; so that this place is rather a military colony than a commercial establishment. The English took it from the Spaniards during the war of the succession in Spain, when attached to the party of the archduke; the fort surrendered to the united fleet of England and Holland in 1704, and the allies took possession of it in the name of Charles the Third. The place was ceded to the English by the treaties of Utrech and Seville; it was besieged in 1705, 1708, and 1782, always without success; nothing was neglected for the defence of the place, and they have laboured incessantly to embellish it and render it pleasant. The facility of procuring all sorts of Spanish wines is a great convenience to the garrison; they generally prefer that of Xeres, usually called Pajarete. In other respects they live

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exactly in the same manner as in their own country.

The population of Gibraltar extends one mile to the south, and nearly as much towards the top of the mountain, but is continually increasing, if we may judge from the number of new buildings lately erected. All the houses are painted black on the outside, with white borders or ledges, shewing the number of stories, which is generally two or three; this method, which at first sight has a sombre appearance, is well suited to a country where the reflection of the sun is so violent. They say that this custom is adopted for two reasons, the first to mask the town from the enemy, the second because there are there many people of weak sight. The activity and precautions of the police maintain the greatest order in public manners, as well as the salubrity and cleanliness of the streets; no beggars are to be found here, as in the towns of Spain, and you meet with none of those hucksters, who live at the expence of the most indigent part of the community, or any of those knaves who frequent all the public places in other towns.

Though all the streets are well lighted at night, no one is allowed to walk without a lanthorn and a permission from the general, as they oblige people to answer immediately the challenges of the sentinels, a great number of whom

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whom are stationed in the town, as well as patroles and watchmen. The permission is written on a card, containing the name of the bearer, as the cards of safety were formerly made out in France.

The toleration of the different religions does not disturb public tranquillity or social harmony. The decorum observable in the Catholic church is equal to the order which prevails in that of the English, and the fervour so much remarked in the Jewish synagogues, of which there are three, and in each of them the men are separated from the women.

The principal synagogue is handsome, having three aisles separated by pillars of the Doric order; the pews for the women are at the sides. There are three steps leading to the peristyle, over which are several large chests of acajou wood fixed in the wall, and intended to preserve the books and other objects of the law. Towards the centre of the middle aisle, in the place where the choir is placed in Catholic churches, a pulpit is erected for the rabbi, from which he expounds the doctrines of the Mosaic institutions, and reads the psalms and prayers in Hebrew, which the people repeat in a loud voice. The men are seated on forms, and all the assistants keep their heads covered. Without doubt, this custom is derived from the east, where it was always preserved. The contortions,

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tortions, gestures, and attitudes, they throw themselves into while at prayers, the confused cries of so many voices without harmony, and the want of order perceptible in the manner in which they sit, sometimes turning their backs on the altar, has not, altogether, a very solemn appearance. But this people possess the advantage of retaining the Hebrew language by teaching it to their children in their infancy, and by this means it is preserved, though rather changed. Their mode of transacting business is well known; every one is aware to what a pitch they carry usury and imposition. However, I have had the means of convincing myself, that in Poland and other countries, where the Jews are the only traders, they content themselves with a moderate profit often repeated, which is then as valuable to them as a more advantageous bargain, and not so burthensome to those who are their dupes. Their religion is not tolerated in Spain, except in Gibraltar, and they live more securely here than in any other part of Europe; and so great a number of them assemble from all parts, that, in process of time, this famous rock will be nothing more than a colony of Jews.

Marriage is one of their most solemn family ceremonies. The hall of the house of the betrothed, where the union is celebrated, is generally highly ornamented. At the end a stage is erected,

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erected, on which seats are placed, one for the bride, and others for her mother and married sisters, as girls are not allowed to assist at this solemnity. The other women, who are invited, sit round the saloon, and they are dressed with the utmost elegance, some in the ancient Jewish costume, which is very fashionable on the coast of Africa. They must assume an appearance of modesty and reserve, and they act it very naturally, permitting only now and then a few glances.

The bride then enters with her mother and sisters dressed in white. Her face is covered with a long veil, behind which her features are distinguishable. The bridegroom soon arrives with the rabbi and the bride's father, and in their turn follow the persons invited. The ceremony is nothing more than a mixture of well known forms, both ancient and modern. A cup of wine is brought, which the new married couple drink one after the other; they then give it to the doctor, who performs the marriage ceremony; he passes it to the father, who, perhaps, to prove that no one can share the affections of the two lovers, breaks the glass into pieces in the presence of the whole of the company. The rabbi then reads the names and rank of the contracting parties, and the duties to which they mutually engage themselves. We know that adultery is severely con-

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condemned by the Mosaic law; but what is more surprising in this age, is to hear the anethemas and maledictions denounced against sterility. It is true that there are few Jewish marriages which are not perfectly conformable to the wish of the law-giver in this respect.

Gibraltar has a theatre, which, though small, is well laid out, and adorned with taste. For want of regular actors, the officers of the garrison perform, during the greater part of the year, a number of English plays.

On the opposite side of the straits of Gibraltar is the town of Ceuta. The traveller, who wishes to cross over into Africa, may take advantage of the north-west winds, and the small vessels which are continually passing and repassing. A calm moonlight night, and smooth sea, will give him an agreeable passage, during which he never loses sight of the two mountains, Calpe and Abila, situated in two different quarters of the world.

SPANISH

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SPANISH POSSESSIONS

ON THE

NORTHERN COAST OF AFRICA.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

At the close of the eighteenth century, Spain possessed on the north of Africa, from east to west, the fortresses of Oran, Marz Alquivir, Melila, Alhucemas, Penon de Velez, and Ceuta. These important posts on the coast of Barbary, might have been fatal to the interests of the Moors in the neighbourhood, if Spain had been in a condition to pursue these conquests with more vigour. The people of this coast had long excited the jealousy of the Spaniards. The inhabitants of Melila had attacked all the Christian vessels in the Mediterranean, and seemed to direct their enmity more particularly against the Spaniards.

Ferdinand the Catholic sent a fleet against them, under the command of the duke of Medina Sidonia. The Corsairs soon called in the assistance of the emperor of Morocco; but the Spaniards made themselves masters of Melila and

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and their territory; and the Barbarians in vain attempted to dislodge them.

In 1774, sixty thousand Moors, commanded by one of the sons of their king, besieged Melila. In four successive months they fired 12,593 shots, and threw 6795 bombs at the place, but were nevertheless obliged to raise the siege.

Marmol, in speaking of the building of Penon de Velez, relates, that don Pedro de Navarre, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, wishing to restrain the piracies committed by the inhabitants of the town called Velez Gomera, resolved, after having driven them from thence, to erect a fortress there. For this purpose he chose a steep and very high mountain, of such difficult access, that only one man could ascend at a time, and all the other part is naturally defended by the rock. He first built a strong tower with sand and lime, and planted cannon there, and dug a well, halfway down the coast, and procured every thing that was necessary from the inhabitants of the town of Velez Gomera, commonly called by the Arabs Bedze; and, in case of refusal, fired upon the town. The sovereigns of Fez and Morocco besieged the fort, battering it with artillery placed on two mountains near it. The Spaniards defended themselves gallantly, and dislodged the besiegers. In 1522, the governor was assassinated by

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by one of his officers who suspected him of having dishonoured his bed, and by this man the place was betrayed to the Moors, who murdered all the Christians except the traitor who delivered up the place. Spain twice endeavoured to recover this post. At length, in 1564, the Spanish troops made themselves masters of it.

The states of Algiers and Morocco, without having any sea-forces capable of coping with the marine of Spain, found means to equip some vessels, by procuring rigging and wood from France, who, shortly after, had herself reason to complain of them; but the rivalry, then existing among the powers of Europe, turned to the advantage of these Corsairs, who respected none of them. Spain particularly was exposed to their pillage.

In 1784, the court of Spain recovered some energy in this respect, and endeavoured to destroy Algiers by bombarding it. She expended 1500 quintals of powder to effect the destruction of two or three mud-houses, for none of the buildings in the Algerine territory were then begun. In 1785, Spain, the two Sicilies, Portugal, and Malta, coalesced, and fitted out one hundred and thirty ships of different sizes on the same enterprize. The Algerines resisted the attack, though their naval force amounted to no more than forty-six gun-

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boats, four galleys, and three armed rafts, protected by four bomb-vessels.

At length the court of Spain, perceiving that the other European states, far from seconding her efforts, encouraged the barbarians, and that Marseilles furnished every thing they wanted, made use of an efficacious though dangerous expedient, and sacrificed 350,000 French livres to purchase peace. The count of Florida Blanca, an enlightened and patriotic minister, was himself obliged to give this advice to defeat the projects of the other courts.

From this epoch, Spain, a prey to so many storms, and uncertain as to what part to act most favourable to her safety, and that of the surrounding seas, determined to make a great sacrifice. Oran had just experienced an earthquake, which had destroyed the whole town, after the siege. Towards the end of 1791 they resolved to abandon it, as well as Marzalquiver, a league distant from it. Though these places are now in the power of the Moors, we will give an idea of what they were before this epoch, after having spoken of the other places which still belong to Spain.

DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIPTION OF THE COAST OF AFRICA OPPOSITE SPAIN, AND OF THE DIFFERENT PRESIDIOS.

On the northern coast of the kingdom of Fez, in Africa, when you have ascended one of the mountains of the chain of Mount Negro, you have in view the long narrow sea of Calpe and Abila, commonly called the straits of Gibraltar, which unites the two seas from west to east. Nearly opposite Tarifa you discover, behind the promontory, or point of Alcazar, not far from the old castle of Malabala, the town named Alcazar el Saguer, founded by Jacob Almanzor, the emperor of the Almohades, the fatal port where that people so frequently embarked to spread desolation over the provinces of Spain. The mouth of the river, that Ptolemy calls Balone, is near here; and, at some distance, are those of Cuchillos, and Silis, as well as the point to which this last lends a name, and empties itself into the strait. You perceive, on the same coast of Fez or Barbary, on the north-west, the heights of the ancient bay of Tingis, without being able to distinguish the town of Tangier, built in a hollow behind Cape Spartel,

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(or Espartel); you see nothing of that famous colony, one of the most ancient on the coast, founded by the Phœnicians, to whom the Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, and Mahometan Arabs, succeeded after each other. At Spartel point the Atlantic washes the western side of the kingdom of Fez. On turning towards the east, seven mountains present themselves, called by the Greeks and Romans, the Seven Brothers, from whence came the name of Septa, which has since been corrupted into Ceuta.

The extremity of the Mediterranean is bounded by the point of Almina, in Africa, which corresponds with Europa Point, on the opposite side. On the promontory of Almina stands the mountain Abila, a rival, although inferior to that of Calpe; the town and fortress of Ceuta, so celebrated by the Arabian poets, as the theatre of war and carnage, is situated at the base. Abila has long since lost the well known name it possessed among the navigators of antiquity; it was then called Mount Acho. A fort is erected there, where they keep watch, and observe, with great exactness, all vessels passing the Straits, and especially the movements of the Moors, who have small encampments always pitched in these parts. The mount is defended by forts and entrenchments, as well as by the heights which overlook the Presidio Espagnol.

Ceuta

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Ceuta (Septa), a town in Africa, in the kingdom of Fez, with a bad port, was attacked in 1409 by the Portuguese, and taken from the Moors in 1415 by John, king of Portugal, who entirely changed the place, built fortifications, and sent troops to defend them, and a colony, which he honoured with the seat of a bishopric, the suffragan of Lisbon. By the treaty, signed in this town in 1668, Ceuta remained in the hands of the Spaniards, and sustained a memorable siege against the states of Barbary in 1697. Ceuta is situated on a point of land advancing from the north-east, and forming a sort of peninsula on the south of the strait, and at the extremity on the east. This town is a very important warlike station, and very much resembles Gibraltar in situation and the form of the rock. In the possession of an industrious people, like the English, it might be made an impregnable fortress; as it is, the defence is easy. It is fortified on all sides, and divided into three parts: Mount Acho, Almina, and the Citadel. This last is at the very point of the peninsula; a strong rampart, surrounded with a ditch, separates it from Almina, where you arrive by a draw-bridge. The merchants and citizens reside in that quarter, as well as those engaged in the civil and military departments. This is the most pleasant part of the mountain. Almost all the houses have gardens attached to them, covered with verdure, and full of flowers and fruit all the year round. There is a cathedral, and two convents, one of Cordeliers, and the other of the Redemption, or Trinitarians, besides a chapel of ease. The population, without including the garrison, amounts to three thousand six hundred persons. There is also a royal hospital, a religious house, and several schools; among others, a military and naval academy.

The whole of this establishment is under the controul of a commandant-general, to whom the military and police are subordinate. The royal tribunal takes cognizance of all civil

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and criminal causes that occur. An intendant, or minister of finance, has the superintendance over two treasurers general of receipts and payments.

Ceuta derives its principal supplies, both for the defence and cloathing of the troops, and their subsistence, from Spain. There are always armed xebecs to carry ammunition and provisions, so that a long blockade would throw the inhabitants into great alarm and confusion; for though the Moors, tempted by the ornaments fabricated in Spain on purpose for this commerce, exchange cattle for them, they would soon cease these supplies, in hopes of exterminating their enemies.

The presidios of Spain, in Africa, receive the desterrados, and the exiles, which may be called banishment for the one, and the galleys for the other, for they are sent there for slight misdemeanors, as well as great crimes. The former have permission to work at their trades, or to serve in a company composed entirely of that class. The latter are fastened to a chain like galley slaves, and are watched and guarded with so much vigilance, that they have no longer the ability to commit any crimes. The government maintains both at its own expence. When one of the desterrados has received pardon, he is obliged to accept it, and return to Spain, whatever advantage he might derive from continuing his trade in the town from whence he is recalled.

The police is so severe, that no women are suffered there, except those who exercise some useful and public calling. They admit no suspected strangers, and no one can be admitted into any of the three establishments but by the particular permission of the commandant-general. It is granted, without difficulty, to those who bring any necessary articles of trade with them which gives activity to the commerce of the place.

They

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They shew at Ceuta a cave inhabited by St. John before he founded the order of Charity.

The revenue of the bishop of this town consists of an allowance made out of certain bishoprics in Spain.

Penon de Velez, (or Large Rock), is a fortress situated between Ceuta and Melila, built with great art, and defended by strong batteries. It is near the town of Velez Gomera, inhabited by the Moors, called Bedze in Arabic.

The establishment of Penon is sufficiently large to receive the convicts or exiles from Spain. They are confined in dungeons, separated from the dwellings of the rest of the inhabitants by double draw-bridges, so that, in case of a mutiny, these bridges being separated into two parts, the other half is fixed to the quarters of the artillery, who would soon make themselves masters of the passage. The house of the commander in chief is on the highest part of the rock, and overlooks the two streets, which are built upon a slope. There are two churches, a chapel or hermitage, and a hospital. The powder and provision magazines are bomb proof.

Proceeding towards the east, you find, about six leagues from Penon, a fort built on a round island, near the mouth of the river Rio Nocor, in the bay of Alhuzemas, whence it takes its name.

Penon de Alhuzemas is surrounded with strong fortifications, commanded by the castle, where the commander in chief resides. The garrison is vigilant and well disciplined. This little place contains one parish church, a hospital, some large and well stored magazines, and some considerable cisterns. The position of the fort is advantageous, as it overlooks the town of Mezemma, the bay of Alhuzemas, the mouth of the river Nocor, and all that part of the coast of the kingdom of Fez.

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Melila, an ancient town of Africa, in the kingdom of Fez, is situated on the eastern coast of the little cape of the three Forçats, which form, in the Mediterranean, the bay of Melila. This place is on the north-east of the town of Fez, and in the province of Quiert, (or Garet). The name of Melila is said to be derived from the honey collected in this district. The town is strongly fortified, and surrounded by the sea. The only communication with the main land, inhabited by the Moors, is by a draw-bridge. It has a commandant-general, a strong garrison, and is likewise a place of confinement for the desterrados. There are large and well furnished magazines and cisterns to preserve the water. The population may amount to two thousand inhabitants.

Marzalquiver, or La Marca, a strong town, with a good port, is on the east of Melila, and the west of Oran; it stands on the point of Monte Santo, in the territory of Beni Arax, in the kingdom of Tremecen, in Algiers. The Spaniards possessed themselves of the place in the year 1506. The Algerines took it from them, but it was again recaptured in the year 1732. The port is safe, commodious, and large enough to contain fifty sail of the line. The vessels bound to Oran, about a league distant, assemble here. There is a handsome light-house to direct the ships during the night.

Oran is a strong town in Africa, in the kingdom of Algiers, founded by the first Moors, who were driven out of Spain, and spread themselves over this coast of Africa: they called the town and district Vahran. This place was so convenient for them to make preparations for their piracies on the Spanish coast, that the great Cardinal Ximenes resolved to fit out an expedition to dispossess them of it. He took the place in 1509, and since that time the Moors have never desisted attempting to regain it. Taking advantage of the unsettled state of Spain, while the houses of France

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France and Austria disputed the succession to the crown, they got possession of it in 1708. Sixteen years afterwards it was retaken by the Spaniards.

The town of Oran is built in the form of an amphitheatre, on the east side of the mountain facing another, between which there is a valley watered by a little river, commonly called the Source. The mountain on which the place is built is conical, and guarded by a very deep ravine on the west side. The town is surrounded with walls, and separated from the sea by a considerable space called the Marine Quarter, where the fishermen and seamen live. Between the mountains there are other walls to defend this part; and, one among the rest, which, from its immense thickness, serves as a bridge between the town and the castles. There are several forts, such as that of the Barrier, which defends fort St. James: fort St. Crux commands the sea, and all the environs of Oran. Here the signals are hoisted to give notice of any army of Moors that may be collected on land, and what ships appear in sight. At the foot of this fort is that of St. Gregory. In the valley there is a walk, along an eminence, called Alameda. Beyond is the gate of Tremecen, and a number of very pretty gardens extending as far as the source of the little river Del Nacimiento. On the opposite side are more gardens, and three forts or castles; those of Rozalcazar, St. André, and St. Philip. Several batteries are thrown up from all these forts to the sea; and there are others in the plain communicating with the place by subterranean passages. Higher up the town is the castle of Alcazava; and, at a short distance, fort St. John. At the head of the river which has been mentioned, they have thrown up entrenchments one above the other to defend it, as it is the only spring in Oran to supply the inhabitants; and the Algerines have often attempted to turn it. This strong place is one of the princi-

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pal depôts of the Spanish presidios for convicts. It requires more than four thousand men to defend it.

Oran and Marzalquiver were abandoned by the crown of Spain the 26th February, 1792; every thing was carried away from both, and the Moors did not enter until they were completely evacuated.

THE

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THE BALEARIC AND PITYUSE ISLANDS,

OR,

THE KINGDOM OF MAJORCA.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The kingdom of Majorca is composed of the islands situated in the Mediterranean sea, called by the ancients Iberian; they are now known by the names of Majorca, Cabrera, Iviça, or Ibiça, Fromentera, Conigliera, or Conejera, and some others, very small. The first three are the Balearic, and the last Pityuse.

The name Balearic * is derived from a Greek word, signifying to throw a sling, which suited those islanders, particularly as they were at that time

* Lycophron calls them Chiriades, because there are a number of rocks under water, round these islands; Pliny says that the Greeks called them Gymnasies, from the exercise of the sling; and Diodorus Siculus, because the people went naked. Aphrosiades and Aphrodisiades were names given them by St. Jerome and St. Isidor, because Venus was said to be the goddess of these islands. The name Eudemones † was a name appropriated to their climate; happy, or fortunate; and Axiologues, ‡ also came from the same reason.

There is also another opinion on the origin of the name Balearic; it is said to be derived from Balea, the companion of Hercules, by whom he was appointed

† Strabo, b. 3. ‡ Strabo, ibid.

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time reputed the best slingers in the world. So, by the figure of Antonomasia they have made the appellative the proper name. Another author says, that Balearic comes from a Syriac word, Balaros, signifying an exile *.

According to Strabo, the first inhabitants were the Rhodians; according to St. Jerome, the Greeks of the town of Zante; according to Silius, they were another people, in fact the Phœnicians. It is to be observed that these islanders existed before Carthage; but were not known till the Carthaginians subdued Iviça, six hundred and sixty-three years before the Christian era. The conquerors were two ages before they could establish themselves in the Balearic islands.

The Balearic and Pityuse islands are placed in a line from north-east to south-west; they are opposite Catalonia, Aragon, and the kingdom of Valencia. The part nearest Spain is the point Martin, or Denia, in the kingdom of Valencia, to the Cala Badella in the isle of Iviça; the middle distance is from the mouth of the Ebro to the island Dragonera, near Majorca;

pointed governor of these islands; this is doubtless the most fabulous etymology. Berose and his commentator have given it as an historical fact, that Tubal, one of the children of Japhet, founded colonies there; and Dr. Dameto, who refuted him, has introduced an imaginary hero, named Gerion, who became the first king, in the place of the former.

* Pausanias, who advances this opinion, calls it proscribed, banished, exiled, and says that malefactors were sent to these islands; but then it must be known from whence they were banished.

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and the furthest extremity from the mouth of the Llobegrat in Catalonia, to cape Bajoli in the isle of Minorca. On the north-west is Spain, on the south the coast of Africa, and on the east Sardinia.

The people of the Balearic islands were employed by the Carthaginians, when they resolved to take vengeance on Agrigentius, who endeavoured to shake off their yoke; when Pyrrhus, king of Epirus, wished to invade Sicily, the Carthaginians, assisted by the Majorcans, repulsed him. In the first Punic war the Romans endeavoured to detach these people from their side, but insensibly the Majorcans took part with Amilcar; and it is said that his son Hannibal was born in one of their islands. When Amilcar was defeated by the Romans, he escaped by flight, and Scipio, who pursued him, not being able to take Iviça, pillaged the island, which first gave the Romans the idea of conquering it. After that, the islanders were ranged under the standard of the republic. The Majorcans, delivered from the Carthaginians, commenced pirates, and spread desolation over the coast of Spain. The Romans invaded Majorca, and made themselves masters of it. During the civil wars which preceded the fall of the Roman republic, it may be imagined how much of their population

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tion these islands lost in taking part with the different factions. Julius Cæsar called them Fundæ Librales, because the stones they hurled weighed a pound *. Pliny and Strabo say, that in the time of Augustus these people sent deputies to him, requiring assistance to destroy the immense number of rabbits that ravaged their plantations.

In the year 426 of the Christian æra the Vandals obtained possession of the Belearics; the African Moors took them from them in the year 798. In 801 the law of Mahomet was introduced there; but a naval armament, sent into the Mediterranean by Charlemagne, defeated the Moors off the coast of Sardinia, and invaded the Balearics, of which they took possession. The Moors, soon recovering from their panic, reconquered the islands, and from this point, in 985, they first formed the project of invading Catalonia; and in 986 seized on Barcelona. Raymond Berenger hastened to attack the Moors in the Balearic islands, and took Majorca. Obliged to return into Catalonia, he entrusted the island to the care of the Genoese, who suffered it to be retaken by the Moors.

The glory of totally dispossessing this people was reserved for don James, grandson of

* Julius Cæsar employed them in Gaul. See his Commentaries, B. 2. De Bello Gallico.

Alphonso

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Alphonso the Second, king of Aragon. In 1228 he assembled the nobility of Aragon at Barcelona; he harangued the assembly, and animated their zeal; the clergy seconded the enterprize; the knights templars assisted, and fitted out knights and cross-bowmen at their own expence.

The uncle of the young king endeavoured in vain to dissuade him from the undertaking; he persisted; intrigues were set on foot, and the Aragonese and people of Lerida refused to follow the king; but all who had taken the cross* remained faithful to him: the Catalonians distinguished themselves particularly.

The fleet sailed the 1st of September, 1229, consisting of twenty-five large vessels, eighteen tartanes, eleven large galleys, and a hundred galiots; the number of troops amounted to seventeen thousand men. They had to contend with a violent tempest; the king was importuned to give orders to return to Tarragona; but the firmness of don James obliged them to continue their voyage. While striving against

* In a conference don James held with John, a monk of Cluni, cardinal of St. Sabine, and apostolic legate, who endeavoured to deter him from taking up arms against the Majorcans, the king answered, that he had sworn it; and taking a ribband, which he doubled in the form of a cross, begged the legate to fasten it on his shoulder, according to the ancient custom of the Christian princes when they marched against the infidels. The legate blessed the cross, and fastened it on his shoulder, and did the same to the grandees, knights, and ecclesiatics who came forward.

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the storm, they discovered Majorca; they could not land at the port of Pollenca, but were obliged to proceed to the Palmera. A Majorcan, in the service of the Moorish monarch, swam from the island to the fleet, to inform the king of Aragon that he would find forty thousand infantry and five thousand cavalry prepared to meet him. The king thanked him for his zeal, promised him a reward, and ordered a landing. The resistance was great in both armies; they fought valiantly, but the Moors always lost more men than the Christians. After some time, the infidels were besieged in the capital; the Spaniards refused to grant them any capitulation. The city was taken by storm, the Moors exterminated, and all the country subdued the 31st of December, 1229. After this victory Majorca was united to the crown of Aragon, and don James shared the territory among the most needy of those who had displayed so much valour. Soon afterwards the Minorcans became tributary to James the First, surnamed the Conqueror. On his death, his second son had for his inheritance the kingdom of Minorca, and the title of an independent king. This partition gave rise to many wars and family feuds; and in 1343 the lawful king, don James the Third, fell in defence of his throne against the usurper don Pedro,

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Pedro, king of Aragon, his brother-in-law. From this time the islands remained under the dominion of the kings of Aragon and Castile, and at length the kingdom of Majorca and its dependencies, the countries of Rousillon and Cerdagne, became part of the possessions of the crown of Spain.

ISLAND

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ISLAND OF MAJORCA.

Mayorca, Majorica, (Insula Major, or the largest and first of the Balearics) is fifty leagues round. It is separated from Spain by about forty leagues of sea, that is, the isle is thirty-five leagues from Catalonia and fifty from Valencia, fifty-five leagues from Algiers, twenty from Iviça, and ten from Minorca; on the north-east is Minorca, and on the south-east Iviça. The climate is temperate. It is almost wholly surrounded with a chain of mountains, of which an interrupted branch extends into the interior; those of Puig Mayor and Galatz are the highest and most considerable. The fresh breezes temper the heat of the climate during the summer: on the eastern coast they feel but little cold in winter; but though well sheltered on the north, they experience some winds which root up, and sometimes entirely destroy, their plantations. The temperature is varied, as in other places, according to situation. The valleys are fresh and fertile, though without water. There are some large brooks that spring from the neighbourhood of the mountains, and run through some parts of the island,

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island, and two small rivers, particularly the Rierra, which takes its rise under the ramparts of the capital. The isle contains two cities, Palma and Alcudia, several small towns or boroughs, and many hamlets. *

PALMA.

Palma is the capital of the isle of Majorca, the see of a bishop, and the residence of the captain-general of the Balearic and Pityuse isles. The city is situated on the banks of a large bay, formed by the sea, between the capes Blanco and Cala Figuera, which is said to be three leagues and a half wide; the port is good and safe, though small. The city is built on a slope on the sea-shore, just in the part where the port makes a bend. It is surrounded with walls, flanked by twelve bastions; there is a half moon, horn work, and several redoubts. On the land side there is a large dry ditch, but all these fortifications could not sustain a well-conducted siege. It has eight gates, three on the side of the sea: Puerta de la Muelle (or the port), of Santa Cathalina, and los Dragones.

The situation of Palma, as you approach it by the bay, from whence you obtain a view of many of the principal edifices, is very picturesque. You see from the water the cathedral and the angel's tower belonging to it, the parish churches of Santa Cruz, San Miguel, San Nicolas, San

* A Spanish author gives it two cities, thirty-two towns, a number of remarkable villages, two thousand and one farms, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven country houses, ten castles or fortresses, forty towers, where sentinels are placed with fires during the night, to give the alarm in case of danger, and two hundred and ten brooks or springs. He gives Palma the title of metropolis, heart, and chief town in the kingdom of Majorca.

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Dominique, San Francisco de Asis, Nuestra Senora del Carmen, Santa Margarita, San Francisco de Paula, Trinitarios Calzados, palacio del Obispo (the bishop's), the captain-general's, the house of royal audience, &c.

Streets and Squares. The streets in some parts of the city are narrow and badly paved; those in the lower part, as well as the squares, are large and regular. Among the squares that of Bornes is the handsomest and most frequented; that of Terrasana is an alluvion, the ground was formerly under water. Another public promenade, both for carriages and foot passengers, is the Ramba. The population of this city is reckoned at thirty-three thousand inhabitants.

The bishopric is a suffragan of Valencia; the diocese comprehends forty parishes; the revenue amounts to 45,000 piastres a year. The chapter consists of six dignitaries, whose stipend amounts to 10,000 piastres among them; the other prebends are estimated all together at 42,500 piastres. There are five rich parish churches, twelve monasteries, eleven convents, not including one in the suburbs, a number of chapels or oratories, four hospitals, two religious houses, nine penitentiaries, two colleges, one of St. Peter and the other of La Sapiencia, and several remarkable public edifices.

The administration is composed of a captain-general and a royal audience *, who have the entire government of the kingdom, and decide as a supreme court on civil, criminal, and military affairs. The appeal from them lies to the supreme council of Castile, a corregidor, with an intendant, and six assessors; a municipal court, composed of six jurors, elected annually, one of whom is a nobleman, directs the division of the taxes, the annual supply of provisions, the

* This court, established in 1715, was substituted for the sovereign court of justice, and is composed of a regent, five counsellors, and a fiscal; the captain-general is the president, but has no vote.

protection

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protection of privileges, and the civil police of the city and island. The council-general is composed of men chosen from all ranks in the island, and the syndics of towns; a bailiff and his assessor, whose jurisdiction extends over manors, and is judge in the second instance; a viguier and his assessor, who takes cognizance of informations in criminal causes, and is a judge in the first instance in civil matters for the city and suburbs of Palma only. Besides this the general administration is in the hands of an attorney-general and fiscal-advocate, who are at the head of the tribunal of the king's domains, composed of a judge of the accounts and an assessor, a royal treasurer, a fiscal-solicitor, &c. and a chancellor, who decides on the competence of the spiritual and temporal power, where they are at variance. The almotacen, an office derived from the Moors, meaning the judge of weights, measures, and sales, also executes the office of commissary of police and overseer. A consulat, who decides summarily, without advocates or attorneys, on all commercial affairs; his judgment may be reviewed before the judge of appeals, who is also obliged to give a summary opinion. An executive judge, who takes cognizance of the revenue and taxes; the only appeal lies to him on a rehearing; in that case the jurors are obliged to perform the office of counsellors, to decide with him. The claverios (collectors), elected annually, who collect the duties. The morberos, magistrates of health, who were established at the time of the plague in 1475; one is a nobleman, the second a citizen, and the third a merchant; they inspect all travellers by land and water, and superintend the lazarettos; they are assisted by a physician and surgeon, and have the power of burning the cargo of any vessel suspected of infection. A director of the manse numeraire, who is the chief of a public bank or depôt belonging to the inhabitants of the city; his agents are called libros. A cequiero is the intendant of the water, and attends to the distribution of it

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in the island, both for their consumption and watering their meadows, fields, orchards, and gardens: the word cequiero is derived from asequia, a trench. An inspector of squares and streets, to prevent disorders in the highway and any mischief from children and vagabonds.

The clergy of the cathedral is composed of a bishop, an archdeacon, a sacristan, a dean, a chanter, a sub-chanter, a treasurer, and twenty-two canons: there are besides some other ecclesiastics and assistants, and a band, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, with an organ.

The cathedral church stands in the highest part of Palma. It is handsome, large, of Gothic architecture, with three aisles and lofty vaulted roofs. The style of building is bold, and the middle vault, higher than the others, is simply sustained by a double range of seven pillars. The windows are magnificent, from the neatness, beauty, and arrangement of colours. You enter the church by three superb and grand gates in the front; and on the side stands a spire of so bold and delicate a structure, that it is called the angel's tower. The king of Aragon, don James the Conqueror, built this church: the choir, placed in the centre, injures the beauty of the body, as it is inclosed in a mass of masonry, the sculpture of which cannot make up for the imposing coup d'œil which the whole inside of the church would present. The tomb of James the Second is situated between the choir and principal altar: it is a sarcophagus of black marble, ornamented with gilt bronze; over which is a silver crown. It is surrounded with an iron railing, about three feet high. There are several chapels, where the sculpture has not been spared; among others, those of the Crucifix, St. Benedict, St. Martin, and the Ascension; the last is adorned with paintings in fresco, which are not without merit. The chapel of Piety is covered with twenty-eight large pictures, close to each other. The treasury is rich; there are several relics, massive silver chandeliers, rich sacred vases, and several other objects of piety.

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The parish of St. Michael is one of the most ancient; it was a mosque in the time of the Moors. The other churches have been built since, and are all large and handsome, and ornamented with turrets or spires of different forms; the churches attached to the convents are the richest.

The episcopal palace is large and well laid out, it adjoins the cathedral, and is built of beautiful stone.

The palace royal of government, where the captain-general and the intendant-general reside, is the most considerable, but laid out without order; it commands the sea-shore. Some parts of the interior are handsome; the vestibule and large stone staircase are very fine. In the audience chamber there is a throne of crimson velvet, enriched with gold fringe, raised several steps, and covered with beautiful tapestry; the canopy is also hung with velvet, embroidered with gold, and ornamented with ostrich feathers; within are the portraits of the king and queen. In this edifice there is a chapel-royal, an arsenal, a magazine, two gardens, and a prison, situated in a large square tower; according to tradition this place was inhabited by the Moorish princes, who were in possession of the island.

The house of Contractation is one of the most remarkable edifices, and was built in the fourteenth century; the architecture is Gothic, it is a vestige of the extensive population and immense commerce of this little kingdom. There is a large and handsome hall, the roof of which is supported only by four pillars; it is the place where the merchants assemble, and where the public fêtes and masked balls are held; the garden formerly abounded in exotics and scarce plants; it was ornamented with several statues, and a stone fountain, with a cascade, but is now neglected; near it is the consulate, the house in which the board of commerce holds its sittings; this court gives audience gratuitously.

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The house of the Inquisition presents nothing curious; this tribunal was never less engaged than at this time; the present inquisitors are ecclesiastics full of mildness and prudence, and would resort to no harsh measures without the orders of Government. The Jews settled in this island, far from fearing it, are more than tolerated, and are protected from injury by a formal decision; the people content themselves by giving them the nick-name of screech-owls.

The mansion-house attracts much attention from the traveller; the entablature supports a quantity of sculpture, and a number of Gothic ornaments. The interior is large; there are a number of halls occupied by the different courts of justice; they are hung with portraits of the most illustrious men of the kingdom, from Hannibal to don James. One of the halls, in which the academy for the instruction of pupils in the art of drawing is established, was founded by one of the archbishops of Seville, and maintained and kept on foot by the bishop of Majorca. The clock, called by some the Balearic, and by others the clock of the sun, is worthy of observation; in fact no one is able to say where it was made, or from whence it was brought; it marks and strikes the different hours of the days and nights according to the progress of the sun, and the different solstices; it is generally allowed to be the only one of its kind in the world.

The hospital of the city is intended for the reception of the poor; it is very well built, and in an airy situation; there are two large wards for the accommodation of the women, and two similar ones for the men. The three other rooms are supported by charitable institutions, called brotherhoods; every ward contains one hundred beds, which are neat, clean, and comfortable; the victuals are wholesome and good of their kind.

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The hospital of Mercy affords an asylum for foundlings, and old people of both sexes, who are too infirm to maintain themselves. It is very unfortunate that the funds of this benevolent establishment are not more certain; in its present state they are very precarious, for the institution is supported by a few charitable donations, and the produce of the labour of the children and old men, who are employed in spinning, and produce a very trifling sum.

The military hospital contains three hundred beds; the whole expence of this charity is defrayed by the king. Besides these, there is a hospital for lepers, in the suburbs; a house of seclusion for women of the town; several houses of piety; one for invalids and poor priests; and another for the education of females of good family, whose parents have suffered from misfortune; they are taken care of here till their marriage, and the benevolence of the public provides them with a portion.

The theatre, though extensive, has nothing very deserving of remark, either within or without; it is the property of the hospital-general, which takes one-third of the profits, and the other two-thirds pay the expences of scenery, machinery, dresses, lights, actors salaries, decorations, &c. &c.

The generality of the houses in the town of Palma are agreeable and pleasant; some are even built of marble. They are in the style of architecture of the ancient Moors; perhaps it is more suitable to the taste of the inhabitants of this country; on the ground-floor is a portico and vestibule, with pillars, and behind are some small rooms; on the first-floor large chambers, without windows, and above a garret, where every thing relating to the house affairs are managed; there is nothing but ovens in the kitchen, and all the victuals are heated and dressed with coal. You find chimnies in some houses, which have been constructed by the French emigrants. Underneath these houses are cellars, in the same

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manner as at Hamburgh, inhabited by the poor people, who receive light and air through the entrance only.

Road from Palma to Alcudia and Pollenza, by the Coast on the South, South-East, and North.

On your departure from Palma, as you travel along the southern coast, towards the east, in the island of Majorca, you arrive at Lluch Mayor, situated in the middle of a large plain, at the end of which is a mountain standing by itself, called La Randa. This plain is rendered famous by the unfortunate defeat of king James the Third, who lost there the crown of Majorca.

Lluch Mayor was built in the reign of James the Second, in the year 1300; the population amounts to about three thousand five hundred souls. The streets and houses are very regularly built; it has one parish church, with a rector and twenty beneficiaries; the church is consecrated to St. Michael the archangel. The convent St. Francis is of a very simple style of architecture. The university of Palma, at its own expence, has established, on the mountain of La Randa, a chapel and college, where about fifty children are taught to read. On this rock the celebrated Raymond Lulle dwelt, towards the middle of the thirteenth century. At a league and a half from Palma is the swamp, called La Prat; the exhalations of this marsh are thought to be very unhealthy, but it might be drained with great facility.

About two leagues to the south-east you discover Campos, a town richer than the former; the number of inhabitants may be calculated at about five thousand; it was built about the same time as Lluch Mayor, and is situated in a large plain, and governed by a bailiff and four jurors. It has a parish church consecrated to St. Julian, with a rector and eleven beneficiaries; a convent of St. Francis de Paule; a well-

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a well-conducted hospital for poor women, orphans, and invalids. The land about it is good, and is divided into fields for the cultivation of corn, and pasture land for feeding cattle; it includes the Cape of Salinas.

Proceeding for three leagues towards the south-east, you arrive at Santani. This town has some good houses, and is better built than the others, as there is a quarry of beautiful stone in the neighbourhood. The parish church is distinguished by its extent; the population also amounts to near five thousand souls; the district is bounded by the Cala Figuera, and was often exposed to the incursions of the Algerine pirates, and the inhabitants obliged to fly into the interior. On turning towards the eastern coast, you meet with the town of Falonichi, or Filanixe; it is large, and contains near six thousand inhabitants. The monks of St. Augustine have built a handsome monastery there. The land about it is rich and fertile; the inhabitants procure from it more corn than is sufficient for their own consumption, and have besides large herds of cattle, and furnish the island with excellent brandy. You perceive at the distance of half a league, on a little mountain, a highly venerated chapel, under the name of St. Salvador; near it is a kind of hotel for pilgrims; the path leading to the top, where this chapel stands, is cut in the solid rock.

As you proceed north-north-east, into the interior of the the island, towards Manacor, situated at four leagues distance, you perceive on the left a vast, fertile, and productive plain, in which the large villages of Porreras, Montuyri, Petra, Villa-Franca, San Juan, and Algueda,* are situated, the population amounts to about twelve thousand souls, and arrive at Manacor, also placed in one of the most fertile plains in the island, where the nobility of the most considerable property spend the summer

*. Before the conquest from the Moors, this town of Algueda, or Algayda, was called Casteligt; a hermitage of this name still remains; it contains a hundred houses and one parish church.

season;

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season; the population is about seven thousand inhabitants. The parish church is dedicated to our Lady of the Ascension; it contains a monastery of Dominican friars, and a hospital for invalids, the expences of which are defrayed by the citizens and other persons. The productions of the ground are the same; corn of all sorts, wines, fruits, vegetables, flocks, and herds. Continuing along the coast, towards the east, over the rocks, you pass San Servera, and on the north of the village discover Arta, containing near eight thousand persons. This town, built in a mountainous situation, is one of the richest in the island; it contains a parish church, consecrated to the Virgin Mary and St. Salvador, with a perpetual vicar and ten beneficiaries; there is one convent, a public oratory, and two chapels of ease for the villages. Servera, with a chapel or oratory, and Cape Pera, where there is a fort, and a vicar who serves the church. The land in the neighbourhood affords pasture for cattle of all kinds, and produces wine, olives, corn and vegetables; the inhabitants cultivate the cotton-tree very successfully, and make a large quantity of oil. There are a number of country-houses in this canton, which are occupied by the nobility during the summer season. The hills and mountains in the neighbourhood present a vast variety of picturesque and agreeable prospects; you perceive chapels, hermitages, convents, several cottages of the peasants, the ruins of an old castle built by the Moors, and the castle of Pera, at the distance of eight hundred toises from the cape of that name, defended by a battery of heavy artillery.

You descend at length towards the west, and quitting the rocks, pursue your journey across a large plain, extending as far as the western shore of the bay of Alcudia; you perceive there the villages Santa Marguerita, Muro, Buger, La Puebla, and Campanet; the number of inhabitants is said

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said to amount to upwards of ten thousand persons; it is one of the richest districts in the island. The land is exttemely fertile, and the productions various and abundant, consisting of different sorts of grain, honey, oil, carobs, hemp, fruits, vegetables, and garden herbs, and affords subsistence to numerous herds of horned and other cattle; there are several orchards and gardens, where melons of an exquisite flavour are cultivated. In all these towns and villages the houses and other edifices are built with much taste and regularity; the churches, of which that of La Puebla is the largest, are all handsome. The town is situated on a mountain; there is a chapel dedicated to St. Marguerita, with an oratory. After arriving at Campanet, going a little farther up into the interior towards the south-west, you find the little towns of Selva and San Sellas on the west; to the south of them, Inca, Benisalem, and Sineu; this again is one of the most fertile and charming parts of the island. The inhabitants collect a large crop of corn, wine, oil, almonds, fruits of every kind, besides carobs, and have introduced some silk-worms. The population may be estimated at about fifteen thousand inhabitants, who are all in easy circumstances.

Selva is placed in a mountainous, though pleasant and agreeable situation, surrounded with small hills, and covered with trees and evergreens; the earth is watered by several rivulets, which conduce at the same time both to its beauty and fertility. The parish is consecrated to St. Lawrence the Martyr, and has ten chapels of ease depending on it, such as hamlets and villages, among which are three vicarages, and several oratories and public chapels.

Inca, Sansellas, and Sineu, are said to have been built by the Romans; all these places are picturesque. Sineu was a flourishing city, or town, in the time of the Moors; their princes resided there, and after the conquest the kings of Majorca built a palace in that spot, where they fixed their

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their court during part of the year. The parish church is very handsome; a convent of nuns is situated on the place where the ancient palace formerly stood, and without the town is a monastery. The town of Santa Maria is not far from Sineu; the population is about two thousand inhabitants; the productions of their territory are nearly the same as those before mentioned. It contains one parish church, called St. Marguerita; the dependency is the village of Santa Eugenia, where there is a curate. Pursuing the road to Alcudia, you pass at some distance a large marsh, called Abufera, not far from the sea; it is said to give rise to pestilential exhalations, which poison the air round it, and produce all kinds of diseases, but it abounds in very large eels, and other fine fish, besides water fowl. As the Abufera is on the east of Alcudia, at about three quarters of a league distance, the depopulation of that town is attributed to the stagnant waters of the pool.

Account of several Towns and Villages mentioned in the preceding Road.

Porreras is situated in a flat country, and contains about a thousand inhabitants; there is a parish church consecrated to St. John the Baptist, a hospital with a public chapel, another chapel, called Puig Montesion, two schools, where children are taught grammar and to read and write, and near the town a hermitage. The land abounds in wheat, oats, mace, oil, saffron, wine, and a quantity of cattle.

Montuyri stands in a plain; it is a very ancient town, and has a parish church and a bailiff-royal. There is neither river nor fountain near, the inhabitants are obliged to procure water from wells and cisterns. The land produces corn, wine, and pasture for cattle.

Petra is the poorest place in the island; it has a parish church and a convent of the order of St. Francis. The villages

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lages of Arion and Villa Franca are under its jurisdiction, with a curacy in the one and a public oratory in the other.

St. Juan is built in a plain, and derives its name from the parish church; near it is a chapel consecrated to our Lady of Consolation; this village is likewise in want of water. The productions consist in corn, wine, oil, and a few herds of cattle.

Muro. This parish, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, has a rector and twenty-one beneficiaries; the town contains a convent, a good hospital, and several chapels; it abounds in all sorts of grain, fruits, vegetables, and a number of cattle. The village of Castelbiert is the dependency, and has a church and curate.

St. Marguerita de Muro was a colony separated from the town of Muro in the year 1300, by order of king James the Second; it is situated on a mountain, and takes its name from the parish church. Its dependency is the village of Maria, where there is a church and curate.

Campanet is built on very rugged ground. The parish church is consecrated to San Miguel; the service is performed by a rector and four beneficiaries; its dependency is the village of Buger, where there is a church and a vicar. There is also a large chapel called from St. Michael, which was the ancient parish church. Formerly the town of Campanet was in the jurisdiction of the city of Puebla, but don Pedro the Fourth, of Aragon, separated it from that place, and honoured it with the title of a royal city, about the year 1366; it has a royal bailiff and four jurors. There is but little water about Campanet, and its staple commodity is oil.

Inca is situated on a rising ground; it contains about nine hundred inhabitants, and has a parish church dedicated to San Addon and San Sennen; three convents, one of Franciscans, another of Dominicans, and a third of Augustin nuns, who formerly resided on the top of a very high moun-

tain

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tain near this town, where the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen at present stands. At Inca there a hospital very well regulated, and a considerable market, which is frequented by great numbers of people from the adjacent villages. Water is very plentiful in the neighbourhood of this place, and the land around produces corn, oats, oil, wine, capers, almonds, fruits, and vegetables. It was originally a colony of Catalonians.

Binisalem stands on a mountain; the parish church is consecrated to San James; it has several hamlets. A small quantity of silk is produced here; some cattle are fed in the neighbourhood.

Senzellas. This little town is situated in a plain; the parish church is dedicated to St. Agatha, and has a rector and five beneficiaries; the population is not considerable. It has within its jurisdiction the villages of Castrix and Beniali; the inhabitants of the latter village amount to about four hundred; it has a church and a curate. This district produces corn and wine only; and the peasants feed a few herds there.

ALCUDIA.

The ancient city of Alcudia is situated on the north-east coast of the island of Majorca, and in the same direction from Palma, opposite Minorca, which lies on the north-east. It is built between two large bays, which form a peninsula of the same name; the one is the bay of Alcudia, between capes Farruch and Del Pinar, and is the largest; the other is the bay of Pollenza, between capes Pina and Fromentelli, or Fromentor; these bays are also called Puerto Mayor and Puerto Minor. This town stands on an eminence, about two miles from the sea; it is surrounded with old walls, of great height, defended by two forts, protected by wide dry

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dry ditches. According to some authors this town is very ancient, but in the opinion of others, it was built after the king of Aragon took Minorca; be that as it may, this place disputed the title of capital with Palma, and it is said under the reign of James the Second to have been in a most flourishing condition. Charles the Fifth granted to the inhabitants the title of most faithful, as a recompense for the zeal they displayed towards their sovereign, when a conspiracy was carried on in 1521 *; he exempted them from all taxes, and granted to the town the name and privileges of a city.

In Alcudia there is a handsome parish church, consecrated to the apostle St. James, a monastery of Franciscan monks, a chapel, or oratory, and a hospital; two chapels, without the walls, and the grotto of St. Martin. About a century ago there remained above one thousand houses, but the greater part were so old that they fell in, and the population within the town cannot be estimated at present at above one thousand persons; it is under the command of a veteran colonel. This little garrison is composed of about forty infantry and a piquet of cavalry. It has a royal judge and four sheriffs, or jurors, appointed by the king. The depopulation may be attributed to the entire want of good water, as the inhabitants can only procure it from cisterns. The cultivation also has been neglected in this district, but the sheep furnish the most valuable and beautiful wool in the island.

On leaving Alcudia, to visit the peninsula, between the two bays, on a little hill is the pretty chapel of our Lady of Victory; and at a little distance a signal tower, built on a very high rock, from whence you discover, towards the east, all the western coast of Minorca, and part of that of Majorca. Below this rock, and on the sea-shore, is a point

* The head of the faction was a tanner; the title was granted in 1522, with several immunities.

also

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also formed by a rock, named La Roxa, on which an eighteen-pounder is placed, directed towards the sea; all this part is stony and uncultivated. On taking the road to the north-west of Alcudia, at the distance of a league and a half, in a fertile and well-watered plain stands Pollenza.

Pollenza or Puglienza, also Pollença or Pollentia, is situated on the north of the island of Majorca. This ancient little town, according to tradition, was built for the purpose of replacing a Roman colony, founded in that situation, and on that account called Colonia. This assertion is supported by several remains of acqueducts, which served to conduct the waters from the valley of Teruellas to this place; on the other hand, it is said that the colony was nearer the sea, and that the inhabitants established themselves on the present site of Pollenza to avoid drowning. This town evidently shews that the extent was formerly more considerable than it is at present; it is a league from the sea, in a plain protected from the north winds by several high hills. The interior is well built, and the population amounts nearly to six thousand inhabitants, who are in easy circumstances. The style of architecture of the parish church is good, it is consecrated to our Lady of the Angels; it has a prior and nineteen beneficiaries, appointed by the order of Malta, who have the same jurisdiction as that formerly exercised by the Knights Templars, to whom it belonged. There is a convent of Dominicans, and a monastery of Jesuits, which was never finished, on account of the suppression of that order, a military hospital, and two chapels or oratories.

The moorings in the port of Pollenza are sufficiently deep to admit ships and galleys; they are sheltered from all winds, and defended by a tower with artillery. he environs are well cultivated, there are vines, olive-trees, and large flocks of sheep; the principal productions are oil and wine, the latter, called montona, is exquisite, and particularly valued.

Near

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Near Pollenza stands an insulated mountain, on the top of which is a chapel consecrated to the Holy Virgin. When the convent of nuns was destroyed, the inmates were removed to the capital. On the north are the ruins of the castle of Pollenza. Towards the north-east the isle is terminated by a point advancing very far out into the sea, and forming the cape of Fromentor.

To the north-west is Palomera or Palumbaria, with a port covered by a rocky island, called by the ancients Columbria. Some coral has been found on this coast, and in the rocks. If you wish to visit the port of Soller, on the west of Pollenza, you must cross some very lofy mountains, thought to be the highest in the island; Soller is a very small port; the mouth is narrow and difficult, and is protected by a battery of several guns. At this port the ships receive their cargoes of oranges, which they export to foreign countries.

Return from Pollenza to Palma.

You descend into a beautiful and deep valley, defended from the winds by a chain of mountains on the north-west, and find, six leagues from Palma, the town of Ascorca, known as the sanctuary of Our Lady of Lluch; it is a large and beautiful building, called the Collegial of Lluch. The canons bear the title of St. Peter of Rome by a bull of Pope Alexander the Sixth *; they are not numerous, but, including the ecclesiastics and the persons employed by them, the building contains about four hundred persons. This

* It was a single parish which was united, in the year 1381, to the chapel royal of Our Lady of Lluch; this is the name of a man who found the image of the Virgin in the bottom of a grotto. The prior performs the sacred duties, but the town of Ascorca has besides, a chapel of ease, called St. Pierre, which has within its jurisdiction the little village St. Lawrence de Calobre, near the sea.

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beautiful valley, so rich in flocks and olives, belongs to the collegiate. It abounds in springs of fresh water, but the two principal are Fortarit and Malano. The wines of Malvoisia and Montona are made here; the surrounding hills are covered with trees, and a number of orchards and gardens, for the use of the collegiate; the church of *Nuestra Senora* is magnificently disposed, and of a beautiful style of architecture; the interior is ornamented with several different kinds of marble found in the island; there is one very fine piece of black marble, decorated with various jasper ornaments. The roof is supported by elegant pillars, likewise of marble. The inhabitants of the island perform pilgrimages hither, to pay their adorations to a figure of the Holy Virgin, which was found, as they say, in the year 1238, in the very spot where the college now stands.

Beyond the mountains, towards the south, you perceive St. Martial, a town with five thousand inhabitants, and Alaro, containing about two thousand five hundred. The productions of this district consist of corn, oil, almonds, silk, wine, figs, and carrobs. The people keep silk-worms, and graze a number of herds of different kinds. Alaro was peopled by king James the Second; it has a parish consecrated to St. Bartholomew. The government is composed of a bailiff and four jurors; they have two villages under them, named Almadra and Consel. There are two oratories, or public chapels, one at the ancient castle of Alaro, and the other under the protection of Our Lady of Refuge; a third is situated in the town of Almadra. On the north of Martial, stands Bunola, founded by king James the Conqueror. The population is said to amount to two thousand six hundred persons. This district furnishes building wood, oil, and a large quantity of carrobs. When you arrive at the foot of the chain of mountains of Enfabeya, you perceive a place, supposed to be the site of a castle belonging to the Moorish kings. These mountains are very rugged, but the road

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road by which you ascend is broad, and very picturesque, from the variety of prospects afforded by the mountains, and the valley. From the summit you perceive the vale of Soler, presenting the appearance of a forest of trees, always green, and loaded with fruits and flowers; on descending you enter the most delightful part of the island. This valley is about three leagues and a half in circumference. The centre is a plain, surrounded with lofty hills, covered with groves of olive and carrob trees. The plain is filled with oranges and lemons, watered by an infinite number of brooks, which all unite beyond Soler.

This town is agreeably situated; the population amounts to about five thousand persons, who are all in easy circumstances. Soler is enriched by the exportation of oranges. It is situated on a hill near the port, opposite Barcelona, where the English take in their cargoes of oranges, lemons, and wine, which are very abundant in this district. It has one parish, a rector, and twenty-eight beneficiaries; there is likewise one convent of Franciscans. It has two dependent villages, one named Fronclurt, with a church and curate; the other, Binaraix, with a public oratory. Besides these are the oratory, on the site of Castillo, the chapel of the hospital, another at St. Cathalina, and another on the sea shore, where St. Raymond de Penafort, according to tradition, embarked on his mantle, instead of a ship, to get to Barcelona, and in this manner made a voyage of one hundred and sixty miles in six hours.

Two leagues further along the north-north-west coast you perceive a little hill uniting with several others, and descend into a deep valley, commanded on the north by a beautiful convent of Chartreux friars, called the monastery of Jesus of Nazareth. It was formerly a royal castle, built by don Martin, king of Aragon. It contains thirty-three monks, each of whom has three rooms appropriated to his own use, and a garden, where he may cultivate flowers and

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vegetables. Strangers are well received in the monastery, and are permitted to lodge and board there three days, and there is a very convenient building for their accommodation. The church and cloister are very fine. The lands in the neighbourhood of this house belong to it, and produce every thing necessary for the cloathing and subsistence of the inmates: corn, wine, oil, fruits, vegetables, and stuffs, which are manufactured in the monastery. The revenue of these monks is far greater than their wants or expences; they are therefore enabled to give away much in alms, and make large presents to those employed within their walls. The town of Val de Musa, or de Mosa, which is opposite this institution, and also situated on a hill, contains a population of one thousand two hundred souls. All this district is not only fertile but luxuriant, and is covered with fruit trees; it produces an abundance of fruits, vegetables, and carrobs, and a little oil. The inhabitants feed large flocks of sheep and goats, and keep a few silk worms. In this village the house where St. Catherine Thomasa was born and educated is to be seen; a handsome iron cross is erected in front of it. Her body is deposited in the church of the Augustines at Palma. She is highly venerated in the island, and her feast day is celebrated with much pomp and magnificence.

About a league from this valley, after crossing the mountains, you find the hermitage of St. Maria, which may be considered as the principal of a number of chapels, and where also some hermits reside. At length you arrive at the town of Banalbufar, situated on the flat part of a mountain, part of which looks towards the sea, and is in the highest state of cultivation. From the top to the bottom this mountain is cut into steps, like a flight of stairs, and the earth is supported by little walls of flint and stone, and by this means is entirely covered with beautiful vineyards. The town contains upwards of five thousand inhabitants, who make wine of different qualities, oil, and linen, and grow a quantity

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quantity of excellent fruit. The district is within the jurisdiction of the town of Esporlas, of which the parish church is consecrated to St. Peter: it has a rector, and at Banalbufar there is a curate, who serves the parish of the Virgin Mary. Within its dependency is Laiglesetta, a village, with a public oratory, where the nuns of Lolivar, now removed to Palma, formerly resided. Within this canton there is an abundant spring of water, which, running underground for the space of two miles, reappears at the village of Canet.

At the distance of about three leagues, proceeding towards the south, you pass through Andracio or Andraig, a well-built town, containing near four thousand inhabitants. It has a port very convenient for boats about two miles from it; the road to it is cut through flints and rock, and is of course very unpleasant. According to several inscriptions it is supposed, that this place was first peopled by the Greeks, and re-built by Don James the First: it has one parish. The land around it is poor, and produces nothing but oil; on the north of Andrech the soil becomes better; near the source of the Rierra, five leagues from Palma, there are some scattered dwellings, forming the village of Puigpugnent, in a large valley, the population of which may probably amount to one thousand two hundred persons. It has a parish, with a rector, and a beneficiary; the dependency is Estallens, where is a church and vicar.

The canton of Puigpugnent is watered by the Rierra and some other rivers; it is planted with olives and several kinds of fruit trees; every house has an orchard attached to it; the inhabitants graze some cattle and bring up a few silk-worms. From Andrech to Palma you pass through Calvia, a village consisting of about one thousand three hundred inhabitants. This little canton, as far as the sea, presents an uneven mountainous appearance, though some parts are extremely fertile, and intersected with little woods. The productions are corn, carrobs, and oil; the people graze a few sheep, and feed a quantity of swine.

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Before you enter Palma you ought to visit the little port of Paguera, and immediately afterwards a creek to which the Christian knights gave the name of St. Ponce, when they landed there with king James the First; Alphonso and Pedro also disembarked at the same point, between the islands of Malgrat and del Toro. On the shore stands Deya, a village, containing about five hundred inhabitants, who obtain their livelihood by fishing. Deya is built on an eminence, and the spiritual jurisdiction belongs to the parish of Valdemosa, from which it was separated, as to its temporal government, in the year 1550; it has a church and a vicar, a bailiff, and a Christian school.

ISLE OF CABRERA AND OTHERS.

The island of Cabrera stands high, and the extent is at least three miles from the south-west to the north-east, and is about two miles and three quarters from east to west *. It is steep at the edges, and the bottom is chiefly of alga, or sea-weed. Cabrera is separated from the island of Majorca by a gulph of more than four leagues broad. The passage is dangerous, on account of the storms which are common in this part of the sea, and the pirates of the coast of Barbary. Cabrera is uneven and mountainous, and certain traces of its ancient inhabitants are discoverable from the vestiges and ruins of their habitations. The port is of sufficient size to admit a large fleet; it is sheltered

* According to some authors it is two leagues in length and five in breadth.

from

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from the winds, and the mouth towards Majorca. The magistrates keep a commander and guard in the castle or fort, where the malefactors are shut up.

The centre of the island is ten miles from the cape of Salinas towards the north-east. Between this cape and Cabrera there are a number of shoals and several little islands; there the fishermen generally go to cast their nets; and there also in time of war the corsairs lie in wait to make prizes. The port is on the north-west of the island, where the cavern of Obispo (or the bishop) is situated. The fort or castle by which it is defended, is built in a mountain. The isle of Cabrera is now almost destitute of cultivation and inhabitants; the garrison, even in time of war, never amounts to more than forty or fifty men. It is said that the island takes its name from the large flocks of goats which are fed there. There are also some woods that are cut at particular seasons, and are sent to Majorca, where they are sold.

At the south-east extremity of Cabrera is a little island called the Imperial, situated so near the coast that there is no room for a boat to pass between. On the north you perceive the little isle of Conejera; it is the highest and most considerable of all those in the neighbourhood: the extent from north-north-east to south-south-west, is about four miles; near it is Redonda.

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There are also several other little islands, which succeed each other, extending from Cabrera to the north towards cape Salinas.

ILSE OF DRAGONERA.

The isle of Dragonera is situated on the western point of the island of Majorca, and is defended by two towers. This isle is about three quarters of a league long, and is nearly a quarter of a league distant from Majorca; the most considerable mountain in it is Popia, where the principal fort is situated, guarded by a captain and some soldiers. The land is uncultivated, but there is some game, and maritime birds of prey, called espana, said to be very good eating. Some authors have thought that this island was the Ophiusa, or Colubria* of the ancients, either on account of its shape or the serpents which were found there. Near Dragonera you perceive several small islands.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE KINGDOM OF MAJORCA.

Population. The kingdom of Majorca lost much of its ancient population in the year 1229, by the defeat of the Moors, and the carnage made by the Christians, in order to revenge the death of the celebrated viscount de Bearn,

* See hereafter, in the description of the Pityuse isles, that of Fromentera.

William

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William of Moncade, and his brother. In the year 1301, the Jews, having been driven out of Spain on account of the exactions, usury, and corruption, which they introduced there, were also sent out of the island. Those who could not save themselves were robbed, and being obliged to hide themselves in the mountains, a great number perished. About the beginning of the fifteenth century Majorca was afflicted with famine for the space of ten years, and the commerce of the isle decreased together with its population. In 1403, the current of the little river of la Rierra was so strong that it carried away sixteen hundred houses, and drowned five thousand five hundred persons. In 1408 and 1444 a similar catastrophe occurred. A civil war succeeded to these disasters. The first insurrection was against the nobility, and lasted for three years. In 1464, all the Balearic islands rebelled, a fleet was fitted out by the rebels against John the Second, and was assisted by a French fleet, sent by Louis the Eleventh, who was desirous of taking vengeance on the house of Navarre. In this expedition a number of the islanders perished. In 1475, the plague was brought from the Levant to Majorca, and caused great devastation. In 1618 and 1635, the Rierra made dreadful ravages in the island; it inundated the fields, and rose to a tremendous height before it discharged itself into the sea. The population, though it was thus diminished, still continued to furnish troops; they were obliged to enrol a regular militia to defend the coast against the Barbarians. The nobility of the kingdom of Majorca was once considerable, and made a figure in history, at the court of Ferdinand and Isabella. We find them in the sixteenth century obliged to defend and intrench themselves in Alcudia against the peasants, who had revolted; and in the middle of the same century, the nobility, at the head of the militia, were engaged against the Africans, who endeavoured to invade the island. Since this epoch, the island of Majorca has suffered less from political disputes,

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disputes, but has never risen to that eminence which it is said to have attained under the Moors.

Even now the number of native inhabitants may amount to one hundred and thirty-six thousand persons, amongst whom are reckoned one thousand and fifty secular priests, a thousand monks and hermits, six hundred cloistered nuns, and six hundred women, voluntarily engaged in the charitable institutions.

Agriculture. The agriculture of the island of Majorca is in a flourishing condition. The mildness of the climate, added to the fertility of the country, has given to the islands of this kingdom the name of the fortunate islands*. The groves of orange trees produce fruit which rivals that of Portugal and Malta; towards the end of June the vines are loaded with beautiful grapes. The carrob tree, an evergreen, bears, towards the end of July, a fine red fruit, and at the same time the palm trees and Indian plantains are in perfection. The soil of Majorca may be considered in two points of view, as requiring a difference of labour and cultivation: the mountains and high lands, the plains and valleys.

The mountains in general are covered with trees from top to bottom. There are a number of firs, which make very good masts; holm-oaks, of surprising growth and size, and several other kinds of wood, useful to carpenters and shipbuilders. The wild olives growing there are very vigorous, and in great quantities. When they are grafted, they require the care of the agriculturist, who, in order to protect them from the torrents that fall with great violence from the top of the mountains, and defend them against storms, surrounds them with low walls, and sometimes as many as thirty rows are placed in gradation one above another.

In the plains and valleys there are some places lying very low, where the rain-water, and that which has flowed out of

* Strabo, lib. 3.

its

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its usual course, is preserved. This kind of land then has the appearance of meadow; if the seeds are sown the grain rots, and swells without consistency. Angelica, wild celery, and a sort of jonquil, of which the cattle are very fond, are found here.

The inhabitants are well acquainted with the soil of their island, which produces in abundance every thing necessary for the wants of life. The flocks are beautiful, and furnish a great quantity of the finest wool. The cultivation of mulberry-trees, which increases from year to year, is very useful for feeding silk-worms; and the produce of these creatures, besides what is sufficient for the employment of the inhabitants, may, perhaps, soon become an article of exportation.

In the territory of Lluch they grow several kinds of corn, and delicious figs, which are dried. They also graze cattle, as well as in the district of Campos, where the same resources are found. The canton of Santani is very fertile in wheat and barley. That of Felonice produces great quantity of different kinds of grain, and a good deal of brandy.

The plain between Felonice, Montuyri, San Juan, and Petra, is considered as the granary of the isle. Corn, wine, oil, fresh and dried figs, and brandy, supply the wants of the interior. The plain of Manaco affords the same productions. The district of Arta abounds in olives, cattle, and game.

The eastern valley of Alcudia is very fruitful and rich. Grains of different species, honey-combs, olives, carrobs, hemp, and every variety of fruit, abound in the orchards and gardens, as well as herbs, vegetables, &c. The village of La Puebla, in this valley, is famous for its cucumbers and melons.

The lands about Selva, Juca, and San Sellas, produce corn, wine, oil, carrobs, almonds, silk, and all sorts of fruit. The ground about Beninsalem produces excellent wine.

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wine. In the territory of Alaro they cultivate figs, as well as all the articles which have just been mentioned.

The valley of Soler is famous for its beauty and fertility, and is the pride of the islanders. The canton of the mountains of Bagnabufar abounds in wine and flax, which are also produced in many other parts of the isle.

The Majorcans are reproached with habits and prejudices, whether proceeding from negligenceor the effect of the climate, which produce a lassitude injurious to their prosperity. They import as much as fifty thousand fanegas of wheat to supply the consumption of one hundred and thirty-six thousand inhabitants, who are in possession of a territory of twelve hundred and thirty-four square miles, supposed to be the extent of the island; and it is said, that there are large pieces of land that would be fit for husbandry, if they were properly cleared and prepared, as the grain produces at the rate of forty for one. It is also said, that the labourer makes use of defective instruments, and merely harrows the field instead of ploughing it. To obviate this reproach, the islander only wants to be provided with good utensils of husbandry, and the facility of draining the lands now buried in swamps.

Government has endeavoured to encourage the cultivation of mulberry-trees, by taking off all duties on silks, on their exportation from the island; but this branch of industry is not yet very flourishing, as the mode of taking care of the mulberry-tree must first be thoroughly understood, and the silk-worms require continual and minute attention. In some parts the want of water is an obstacle to their production.

The finest European fruits and vegetables might here be more cultivated and varied.

Industry and Commerce. The Majorcans manufacture a coarse cloth, very strong, for their own use, and a large quantity of corded woollen stuff, which is exported into Catalonia and the kingdom of Valencia. There are also looms for

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for tapestry, blankets, and sashes, all in wool, exported to Malta, Sardinia, into the kingdom of Valencia, and even to America. They manufacture the silk in the island, and make several stuffs used by the inhabitants. It is the same with their linen cloths, some of which are very fine. The coarse canvass they fabricate for the use of the marine is exported. The Majorcans make brooms, paniers, and baskets, out of the leaves of the palm tree, which are transported into Spain. These islanders have been famous for their inlaid work, and still have the reputation of being very expert in this manufacture. This branch of commerce turns out greatly to their advantage. At Palma there is a glass-house; and at Petra a paper manufactory, but both are of a very inferior quality. They have a drawing-school, and two printing-houses at Palma. The brandy made there is thought fine; there is also a distillery for orange-flower water.

For the interior commerce of the island, the Majorcans possess in

Wheat	507,228 fanegas.
Barley	178,280
Oats	121,760
Vegetables and small grain	107,420

and they export about 12,000 fanegas of beans only.

In oil	2,081,970 arobas,

half of which at least is exported.

In oranges and lemons	24,000 millions,

of which 14,000 millions are exported.

In almonds	11,944

of which 11,400 are exported.

In figs	12,000 quintals;

almost the whole are consumed in the island.

In wine	952,748 arobas,

of which the natives consume 575,630.

In

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In brandy	37,400 arobas,

half of which is exported.

In hemp	6000 quintals.
Flax, about	300
Silk, nearly	400
Horned and large cattle	6000
Sheep	61,330
Goats	33,620
Pigs	2,500
Horses	2000
Beasts of burthen, in mules and asses, about	9000

The wines are excellent. The lightest and finest, though frisky and delicate, are Muscadel, Malvoisia, Pampot Roda, and Montona.

The oxen are small and feeble. The sheep large, with beautiful and heavy fleeces. The pigs are large and fat, weighing from three hundred to three hundred and fifty pounds. Game is very plentiful, and consists of hares, rabbits, snipes, thrushes, partridges, quails, &c. Poultry is very common.

They make cheeses, some of which are very good, with goats' and sheeps' milk. Out of eight hundred quintals manufactured there, more than half are exported to Spain, where they are esteemed a great delicacy.

The balance of trade relatively to what they sell to, and receive from, foreign countries, is greatly in their favour, and the profit must be considerable.

Table of Exportation.

	French livres.	
Oils to the amount of	11,000,000	go to England and Holland.
Wines.....	685,590	to Spain and America.

Brandy

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Brandy	177,000	to Spain and America.
Oranges and lemons	200,000	to France.
Almonds	60,000	to France.
Cheeses	40,000	to Spain.
Capers, about	7000	to Spain.
Beans	40,000	to Spain.

12,209,590 French livres. *

And this sum is merely from the produce of the earth, not including some articles of manufacture which must increase it. The inhabitants receive in exchange corn, salt provisions, sugar, coffee, rice, different sorts of snuff, cloth, silk stuffs, linens of different qualities, hosiery, hardware, medicinal drugs, planks and building wood, powder and shot for sporting, &c. All these things together, may, perhaps, amount to the value of about 2,996,000 French livres. † So that there remains in favour of the Majorcans the sum of 9,213,590 livres ‡ annually. A commercial balance, which, taking into consideration the number of inhabitants, and the extent of territory, cannot be surpassed by any country in Europe.

Carts and Carriages. The island of Majorca, destitute of navigable rivers, is also without any highways convenient for travelling. The roads are in bad condition, and much out of repair. All the land carriage, from the interior to the sea, is on the backs of mules; and the carts used in this country are of a clumsy form, and heavy and difficult to draw. They consist of a platform of boards fastened toge-

* About 508,732*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* English currency.

† About 124,833*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* sterling.

‡ About 383,899*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* sterling.

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ther, joined to a very large beam. Across the bottom is a heavy axletree, likewise of wood, to this, two broad flat wheels, surrounded by an iron hoop, are fixed, and the axletree turns. The mules by which it is drawn are harnessed by the neck, and fastened to an enormous yoke, longer than the breadth of the cart, extremely inconvenient to the pace and draught of the animals; this cart will not hold any thing of weight, and is slow in its progress. The carriages of Majorca are also very heavy and ill-contrived, but it must be owned they are more suitable to the state of the roads, which are full of stones and ruts, large enough to overturn and break to pieces any lighter vehicle.

Natural History. The productions of the mountainous soil of Majorca would undoubtedly present a wide field to the curiosity of the naturalist. Nothing of the natural history of the country will be mentioned here, beyond what comes within the first glance of the traveller.

It has been said that mines of gold and silver were found in the island of Majorca. The geographers, after Pliny, have given credit to an opinion that nothing tends to prove. The same observation applies to the quantity of precious stones, reported to have been discovered here; but there are at least very fine quarries, which furnish articles very valuable on account of their utility.

At Andraig, Puigpugnent, Bunola, Banubufar, &c. they find marble striped red and white; and at Alaro, a clouded marble; in which the shape of the spots resembles almonds, it is black and white, and takes a very fine polish; the natives call it amandrado.

At Arta and Estellans the finely varied and very interesting grottos of stalactites are also to be seen; you likewise meet with fossil wood. At Benabufar they work a quarry of excellent building stone, and at Beninsalen, a square and flat stone, very convenient for the pavement of churches and the floors of houses. At Arta and Menacor, stones with the

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the impression of leaves on them, and mill-stones are found; at Estellans, very fine stones for the use of cutlers; at Santani and Lluch Mayor, a kind of sand stone, not subject to cracking,

In several districts of the island good slate, chalk-stone, plaister, and mixed stones, formed of calcareous, vitrifiable, and refrangible parts, are found.

In the marshes of Campos a quantity of natural salt is discovered, from which a considerable revenue might be derived, if they were worked on a grand scale. In the district of the town of Campos is a warm spring of mineral water, called the holy, or St. John's fountain; is is sulphureous, and thought salutary in several complaints.

This island should be fertile in curious plants and simples of all kinds; it abounds in capillaire, lavender, rosemary, thyme, wild-thyme, marjoram, marsh-mallow, jonquil, and wild-celery; they also cultivate saffron, and an abundance of roses in all parts.

There are some birds of prey, particularly the hawk, but venomous animals, and the dreadful effects of their poison, are but little known.

The coral fishery is carried on in the bay of Alcudia, during the months of July and August.

Character, Dress, Manners, and Language. The manners of the Majorcans are the same as those of the Spaniards, but resemble the Catalonians most strongly; they make both excellent soldiers and sailors. The dress of the peasants is a cap, which covers their short hair, a jacket down to the waist, large breeches, and shoes tied with a string; above the breeches they have a sort of frocks, like the brewers in France. On holidays, the peasant throws off this dress, and wears that of the Spaniards in the time of don James the First; a black cap, a large ruff round their necks, and a great hat, turned up on both sides; the citizens are dressed like those of other towns in Europe. There is very little

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difference perceptible in the costume of the women, from the lady of quality down to her waiting-maid, and from the citizen's wife to the country-woman; both in the house and out of it the mode of dress is the same, and the only distinction is the stuffs which are used. Their neat and simple head-dress is called rebozillo; it is made with a double handkerchief; the top part covers the head, and is tied under the chin, leaving only the face exposed, then extending over the shoulders, and falling down half of the back, the two ends meet, cross, and tie before. Among the wealthy, the rebozillo is an expensive article of dress, on account of the embroidery and lace. The head-dress worn by the peasant is generally made of coloured India muslin, and on holidays, of plain muslin, adorned with a coloured silk ribbon. The dress is composed of a whalebone corset, covered with black silk, the sleeves very narrow, and coming down as low as the elbow; this corset is adorned with silver buckles or buttons; the petticoat is black, or white, or Indian; within doors the ladies wear black petticoats, ornamented with long fringe, made of silk, cotton or worsted; the country-women wear a sort of necklace under the chin, but those used by the ladies are sometimes of great value; they are made of pearls, which passing under the rebozillo, comes very low before, and from the end is suspended a cross of gold, or handsome medal; as an ornament, the women of fortune wear a gold chain hanging along the petticoat, and sometimes a chain of the same metal from the corset, to which a valuable medallion is fixed; in other respects, they have all their fingers covered with rings, and make use of watches, bracelets, and other trinkets. When they go out, they wear a mantle like those in Spain, and carry in their hands a fan and a long chaplet, ornamented with gold beads, and a cross of the same metal. The generality of the Majorcan women, like the Spanish, pay great attention to dressing their

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their feet well; their shoes are made very neatly, and with high heels.

The Majorcans pique themselves on their fidelity to their sovereign; they are devout without being bigots; their manners are soft and prepossessing. The women have a great deal of natural elegance.

Palma has a theatre like those in Spain, where they sometimes act tragedy and sometimes comedy, but both are always succeeded by a tonadillas.

People of distinction, citizens, men of business, merchants, and sailors, speak Castilian, but the language spoken among the rest of the islanders is certainly a corruption of several others; it is a jargon, the origin of which it would be difficult to trace. The authors who have written on the Balearic Islands, say that the Limousine tongue is made use of, but this language is nothing more than a dialect differently pronounced, and spoken in the southern provinces of France. The Balearic consists at once of Greek, Latin, Arabic, Catalonian, Languedocian, and Castilian, interspersed with Syriac, Carthaginian, and Vandal or Gothic words, or is rather a strange mixture of all.

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ISLE OF MINORCA.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The island of Minorca, Menorica (Insula Minor) or the smaller compared with Majorca, and second of the Balearic Isles, is long and narrow, forming a part of a circle from the south-east end to the north-west; the hollow part is towards the south. This island is thought to be thirteen leagues in length at the longest part, and near thirty-eight leagues in circumference; it lies about ten leagues to the north-east of Majorca, and fifty east from the mouth of the Ebro. Minorca has successively fallen under the dominion of the Carthaginians, the Romans, the Vandals, the Moors, the Aragonese, and the Castilians, and for the space of a century (1708) has been in the possession of the House of Austria, the English, French, and Spaniards, by turns.

The isle of Minorca stands in the middle of a number of little rocks, banks, and islands; on the south the shore is level. The air is moist, and the soil dry; the water is not so good as at Majorca, and the temperature less pleasant. The

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The administration of Minorca is divided into districts, or terminos, the chief towns of which are Ciudadella, Mahon, Alayor, Ferarias Mercadel. The principal ports are, Mahon, on the east; Fornella, on the north; and Ciudadella, on the west. The isle is level, and there is only one mountain remarkable for its loftiness, called Monte Toro.

Road from Mahon to Ciudadella.

A very good and easy road, convenient for carriages and artillery, begins at the batteries of St. Charles, and crosses nearly the whole length of the island. The port of Mahon is on the east, and Ciudadella on the west. This road is owing to the ingenuity of the English, who were in possession of Minorca from the peace of Utrecht till 1758, that is, during half a century; they re-entered it in 1763, and the Spaniards took it from them in 1782.

MAHON.

Mahon, or Port Mahon. The name and foundation of this city is attributed to a Carthaginian captain, called Mahon, or Magon; it is the principal town of the Terminos, which is surrounded on three sides by the sea, east, south, and west, and towards the north by the territory of Layor, or Alayor.

The town of Mahon is situated on rocks, standing on the left bank of the port, on entering from the sea, which it commands, and this elevated situation gives it the advantage of a pure and healthy air. Part of the houses have no

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other foundation than the rocks, rendered hollow by the water, a circumstance that in the course of time may prove very dangerous to the edifices. They are in general built with taste, many are terminated in the Italian style, by a terrace, and nearly all have a cistern, more or less large. There is no public building worthy of observation.

The parish church is tolerably well built, as well as three convents *, but without any exterior ornament.

The government office is spacious, badly laid out, and without any thing remarkable in its appearance.

The hotel of Ayuntamiento is only one story high, ornamented with three iron balconies, and above is a clock; on the ground-floor there are prisons.

The hospital is large enough to contain sixty invalids; there are some private schools for both sexes.

The streets are narrow, rough, uneven, and paved with flints; a century ago there were none at all.

Mahon was formerly surrounded with walls; there is nothing now left but one of the gates, which serves as an entrance to a new street, leading to the suburb; these walls were supposed to have been erected by the Moors. The principal, called the place of arms, is square, large, and handsome; on one side is a barrack, two stories high, well built, and containing twelve hundred soldiers; the other three sides are surrounded with houses, which are very irregular and disagreeable.

The Alameda is an alley of trees, at the bottom of the town, on the bank of the port; the vegetation is very feeble; it is the only place that can be considered as a promenade; near it is a well, which is very useful from the abundance of water.

* Two of monks and one of nuns; one built in the fifteenth century, and the other two in the seventeenth.

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The celebrated port of Mahon is, without doubt, one of the finest, safest, and most convenient in the Mediterranean; a large fleet of ships of the line can enter and lie at anchor there conveniently. This has given rise to the proverb: "June, July, August, and Port Mahon, are the best ports in the Mediterranean"*. At the entrance there are some shoals, but within the ships are sheltered from all winds. It is near a league and a half in extent, and contains four islands, viz.

The King's Isle, so called because Alphonso the Third disembarked there in 1287, where there is a very neat hospital, built by the English; it consists of three buildings, surrounded by a large court, the two wings are terminated by a pavilion and garden. In the court are three wells for the use of the house; there is room for upwards of five hundred invalids, and a bed for each.

The Isle of Quarantine. This name relates to the establishment kept on foot there, and its destination. It is a building of two stories, the first is for depositing goods; the magazines are merely closed with wooden grating, to give free circulation to the air; above are the rooms intended for those who are obliged to perform quarantine.

The Isle of Lazaret joins Minorca by a little bank of solid sand, but almost always covered with water. This island was intended for the reception of sailors, passengers, and merchandizes, coming from countries infected with the plague, as those in the Levant, and places suspected of contagion, such as the United States of North America. The building intended for that purpose will be one of the best contrived in the Mediterranean, when it is finished. On the left bank of the port, and opposite the isle of

* Junio, Julio, Agoste y puerte Mahon, los mejores puertos del Mediterraneo son. The same thing is said of Carthagena.

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Lazaret, is the borough St. Charles, also called Neuva Ravalla; it is inhabited by seamen who fish on the coast.

The Isle Redonda is a circular mass of rocks. This isle forms a narrow canal between itself and the former one; it is situated at the end of the port, and joins the isle of Minorca by a wooden bridge in front of the town; they have established an arsenal, and magazines intended for the reception of masts, sails, cables, rigging, and every thing necessary for the equipment of vessels. A commandant of marine and the officers of administration reside there. This little island is surrounded with walls, defended by square towers and artillery; the communication from it with Mahon is by a bridge of wood very well built.

Stocks for ship-building are established on the right bank of the port. You also see sheds, built upon stakes, for the purpose of sheltering small vessels, such as yachts, sloops, gun-boats, and others.

A mole, thrown up by nature, borders on the road of the port of Mahon, as far as the bay or cale figuiera; on this mole several edifices are placed, such as magazines, of two stories, containing cables, sails, rigging, cordage, anchors, &c. for merchant-ships, a quarantine-office, a custom-house, &c.

The Cabo Mola, or promontory, situated on the east, at the entrance in the road of the port, is very high, and joins the island by a narrow mass of sand. The English had an idea in contemplation of insulating and fortifying it, after they retook the isle in 1798. The cape would then have been inaccessible all round, if they had removed the sand on the side of Mahon; they had also erected telegraphs* on all the most elevated parts of the island, but they were taken down since the re-entry of the Spaniards into Minorca,

* The English telegraphs are unlike the French, both in shape and mechanism, but can make more communications in less time.

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in June, 1802. At a short distance from cape Mola stands the signal tower, to correspond with mount Toro, which is again connected with other points; the signals are conveyed during the night by fires, and in the day-time by flags.

You arrive at the town by two roads, the shortest is the most difficult and disagreeable; it is by this road that all the drains and sespools of the city are emptied, a circumstance that renders it very disgusting; the other is less steep and fatiguing, but you cannot ascend it without passing under the cannon of fort St. Philip; the carriage of goods is done by mules, as the road is not fit for vehicles.

The name of Fort St. Philip was as famous in the maritime wars in the last century, between France and Spain, against the English, as that of Port Mahon. To arrive at this place you must pass by the Ravalla Nueva, or the borough San Carlos, situated half way from the town and Castle St. Charles. In this place are some fine barracks of free-stone, ornamented with flags, where the officers lodge; they are sufficiently large to contain three thousand soldiers. There is a square place where a battalion can manœuvre with perfect convenience; behind this place is another building erected by the English, in which there is room for two hundred men. The fortress of St. Philip occupied a space of about a league in circumference; nothing now remains but the site, covered with ruins of the ancient fortifications, consisting of redoubts, covered-ways, casemates, mines, &c. The whole have been blown up, and every thing completely destroyed, by the particular direction of the Spanish government, in 1805. There is nothing left in the centre but some small edifices, a corps de garde, and an inhabited part. Further up the bank of the port you see Fort Phillipet; it consists of a tower and a battery below.

The Terminos, or district of Mahon, comprehends the city, the borough San Carlos or Ravalla Nueva, San Luis, Biniatap,

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Biniatap, and about one hundred and forty farms or manors, and the population may perhaps amount to between seventeen and eighteen thousand persons. The villages of St. Luis and Biniatap have nothing remarkable in them, except, that at the former place, a fair is held on the 25th of August, which is numerously atttended by the inhabitants of the Terminos de Mahon.

About four leagues and a half from Mahon is the borough of Alayor, the chief town of the Terminos of that name, containing about one hundred and twelve hamlets or manors, and rather more than four thousand people, in a place about four leagues in length, and three and a half in breadth. It is bounded on the west and south-west by the sea; on the south-east by the territory of Mahon; and on the north by that of Ferarias. Alayor is situated on the left of a high road leading from Mahon to Ciudadella. The streets are uneven, crooked, narrow, and ill paved; though the houses are well built. You see, on entering this town, a church, built of free stone, of a very simple style of architecture on the outside; the interior is decorated with sculpture, and adorned with paintings, like all the other churches in this island. There are some works of a native of Majorca worthy of observation. He was entirely self informed, never having met with an opportunity of seeing any but very imperfect models, and by his own natural taste became a very distinguished sculptor; there are some altars to be seen which are very well executed, as well as some statues in wood, finely carved; he excelled principally in the capitals of pillars, and in ornaments, foliage, and fruits; the delicacy and taste of his performances are easily distinguished.

The parish church is ancient, and the architecture Gothic.

The monastery of Cordeliers, built in the seventeenth century, contains a large and handsome church; the monastery and cloister are very extensive. The court is square, and the cloister adorned with a gallery on the first story.

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There is a hospital, and a barrack capable of containing a detachment of two hundred and fifty men. The town is well provided with cisterns, filled with fresh and salubrious water.

The environs of Alayor would be agreeable, if the ruggedness of the roads was not such an obstacle to travelling. There are some thick plantations of trees, and at a little distance an Englishman has laid down a beautiful turf, covered with oaks, which preserve its verdure, and form a perfect shade from the rays of the sun.

About one league from Alayor, returning by the road from Ciudadella, you meet with Mercadal, the chief town of the Terminos Mercadal, and of Ferarias, which contains some hamlets and manors. The population on the whole amounts to two thousand souls.

Mercadal is nearly in the middle of the island, on the great road. Its streets are narrow, winding, and unequal, ill paved and worse repaired, though this is the principal road in the island, the station of the troops and military, and other convoys, which go or return between Mahon and Ciudadella. The public edifices consist of the old parish church, which is falling into decay, and a new one. This village is situated in the least salubrious country in Minorca. During the extreme heats, the inhabitants are afflicted with a number of obstinate fevers, and, during one part of the year, are obliged to make use of well water, which is hard and bitter, for their own drinking, as the great public cistern is often dry during the summer, a season in which more water is consumed, and less rain falls. The territory of this village is about five leagues and a half in length, and four and a half in breadth.

A little more than four leagues from Mercadel and in its Terminos, is the village of Ferarias, very near the great road from Ciudadella to Mahon; it is worse built and has a less agreeable appearance than the former. The English have,

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have, however, constructed barracks for two hundred soldiers, and a tent for the officers. Few of the inhabitants are husbandmen. The greater number indeed occupy themselves in hunting, as the game is in great abundance. The territory of Ferarias is five leagues in length, and two in breadth.

Mount Toro, at a short distance from Mercadal, is the most considerable mountain in the island, which it commands on all sides. Its base is some miles in circumference, and its form that of a cone cut flat at its summit. Its ascent is by a rough and difficult road, and becomes very steep at its termination. On the side of the declivity there is a low wall, composed of stones without any cement, that is broken down in some places. The plain is occupied by an Augustine monastery, more large than beautiful, where there is a miraculous image of the Virgin, which attracts a crowd in all parts of the year. Penitents of both sexes scale Mount Toro, like Mount Serat, bare-footed. This place affords a most extensive prospect, comprehending the whole island, with Majorca at a distance. Here the English erected a telegraph.

Mount St. Agatha is situated to the north-west of Mercadal, and rises above several mountains, by which it is surrounded. They were covered with trees and plants, but time and rains have destroyed them, and left only bare rocks, some overturned and others half rent. Upon the summit of St. Agatha is a chapel of the same name, held in great veneration. Perhaps in the time of the Romans it possessed fortifications, for some remains are still visible. On the highest part of the top was formerly a fort; in the lowest are vast cisterns, formed by the hand of man, and fastened by a very fine and durable cement.

The whole of this canton is inhabited by shepherds, whose flocks live upon a part of the mountains. The valley beneath is abundantly fertile, and, together with the pretty domain

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domain of Adaya, is secured from the north winds by Mount St. Agatha. This territory is more interesting than any part of the island, possessing a very abundant stream, which is a considerable advantage for watering. The gardens and orchards of Adaya are well cultivated, and produce very fine figs, and the best oranges and olives in Minorca; besides these fruits there are excellent water melons, many other agreeable productions, vegetables, and charming walks.

Ciudadella, *Jamna*, the capital city in the island of Minorca, was in the fifth century the see of a bishop, * and is situated at the north-west, eleven leagues from Mahon. It was the residence of the governor of the island, who is commonly a brigadier-general in the armies of his Catholic majesty, and of the administration, which takes cognizance of all affairs, whether civil, criminal, or military. The ecclesiastical jurisdiction is under an office, at the head of which is a master, who holds from the metropolitan of Tarragona. There is also a commandant of the marine and a minister or intendant of the finances, who are independent in their department, and render no account except to the king.

This city is said to have been considerable in the time of the Romans and Carthaginians, but it has greatly fallen off from its splendour: even Mahon disputed the superiority when the English established their tribunals and the seat of government in the island.

Ciudadella is built at a little distance from the coast; its port is small and marshy, formed by a canal, bounded by rocks. On the right and left are towers, corresponding with each other, to repeat the signals; there are two cannons of a large calibre, upon swivels, sufficient to stop a privateer. The entrance or the mouth is difficult to pass. The city is surrounded in part with ancient walls, con-

* St. Severus, A. D. 418.

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structed by the Moors; the rest is modern, formed of bastions and curtains, built with hewn stone. The interior contains nearly seven hundred houses, some of which are very pretty. The streets shew the antiquity of the city, and are what they ought to be in these climates, narrow and shady to cut off the heat of the sun. The pavement is of large unhewn stones, and in the city are a cathedral, two churches, three convents, and a hospital.

The cathedral is situated near the middle of the city, and is large, lofty, deep, and flanked by a beautiful square tower, terminating in a building of an octagonal shape in hewn stone. They believe that this church, built in the third century, has replaced that which must have existed before the time of St. Severus.

The Franciscan convent is near the place of arms. This monastery is large, has handsome and fine halls; some of them are used as places of education for young people, and one for surgery. The exterior of the church is very simple, but it is sufficiently ornamented in the inside.

The church of the Augustines is remarkable for a dome, and some ornaments in the interior choir are grand. This convent is situated near Port Mahon, and has a cloister, a library, and a hall for theology.

The monastery of St. Clara contains a number of nuns of an order of admirable piety.

The government house is near a bastion; its principal part is towards the city; the first story has a communication with the ramparts. The view on this side is very agreeable, it commands at once part of the territory of Ciudadella and a great extent of sea, over which may be seen, in the horizon, the island of Majorca. On the side of the place of arms is a garden. The officer, who commands in this place in the name of the governor, who resides at Mahon, inhabits this large building.

The hospital contains perhaps two hundred invalids, and is appropriated to the poor inhabitants of the city.

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The four quarters are constructed for lodging the troops. One is bomb proof, and large enough to admit three hundred men; it is near Port Majorca; the second over the armory, and the third is capable of accommodating the same number as the first; the fourth is intended for a detachment of cavalry. In general there are not more than half this number of men in the garrison.

Beyond this city, near to one of the towers of the canal, is a church dedicated to St. Nicholas, the patron of mariners. The church is covered with votive offerings deposited by the sailors.

On leaving Port Mahon, we observe the beautiful monastery of St. Antony. The church and convent are built of the finest stone; the garden is pleasant and well cultivated. Many other gardens, containing both fruit and vegetables, are situated in the neighbourhood of this capital. Ciudadella is the principal town of the Termino of the same name, which is above five leagues and a half long, and two leagues three quarters wide; it contains nearly a hundred and forty hamlets or manors; and the total population amounts to about eight thousand persons. Thus, though in this territory, the bishop, the official, and nearly all the nobility of Minorca reside, Mahon has nearly double the number of inhabitants.

We cannot positively determine the strength of the island, as it depends upon circumstances. When it was retaken by the English in 1798, the Spaniards had in it six thousand troops, and the English, excepting the naval force that blockaded Minorca, disembarked only three thousand soldiers. When the Spaniards, four years after, were reinstated, they left a garrison with three thousand infantry, one thousand five hundred light infantry, five hundred engineers and miners, and ninety heavy cavalry, which were used for the ordnance; they did also the business of piquets. The mules, belonging to government, were employed in carrying ammunition, artillery, provisions, baggage, &c.

Minorca,

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Minorca, besides the ports of Ciudadella and Mahon, has many others; the most remarkable are those of Fornella and of Adaya.

Port Fornella is situated about six miles from Mount Toro; it describes a circle, the entrance of which is very narrow and faces to the north. The bay of Fornella is capable of containing the largest fleet; it is perfectly sheltered, and strikes the eye in the most favorable manner. The port is defended at the entrance by a small square fort, built of hewn stone, with bastions and fosses. This rampart is covered with magazines and lodgments, which are vaulted; on the opposite side there is a tower, and at the further end of the port, upon a rock or isle, is a fort, built of wood. The establishment is capable of supporting a constant garrison of three hundred men. Near this is a small village of the same name, inhabited only by fishermen.

The entrance to the port of Adaya is concealed by eminences towards the north. It is only used for fishing; the shores are covered with shrubs, which render it very pleasant.

The port of Sanitge, on the west coast, can only admit small boats; it is narrow at its entrance, and about half a mile deep.

Of the islands or islets, surrounding Minorca, the most considerable are to the south, about three quarters of a mile from Cabo Bufara. The island of Coloms is much elevated, and forms with the cape a narrow canal; near it are two small islets, that on the south-east is called Inida. The large and small island of Adaya, near the port of the same name. To the south-east is situated the large island of Aguila; its form is round and high; only small sloops can pass through this strait. The isle of Sanitge is rather elevated; it is near the port of the same name; at some distance is an islet, and beyond that the island of Bleda. Still keeping

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keeping this course we turn the island of Majorca, and double the cape of the same name, sometimes called Bajoli. To the north-west of Ciudadella, and running towards the south-east, the hollow curve of the island, we discovered the rocks of Alayor, and a small island named Galera, besides an islet called Codrell. At length we arrive at the isle of Layre de Mahon. This island is very low in the north-west part, but to the south-east it rises in a peak; it is within reach of the ancient fort of St. Philip; at the end of the arsenal is the great cavern of St. Stephen, and from thence to Mahon there are none but small islands before the first point.

Agriculture, Industry, and *Commerce.* Minorca is not sheltered from the northern winds, because Mount Toro, the principal elevation in the island is, as it were, in the centre; all the northern coast appears fretted and worn by the violence of these winds. The trees on this side put forth their leaves with difficulty, and are bent towards the south. Nevertheless, snow is seldom seen here in winter, and during spring the air is always temperate and pure; in the summer the heat is very great, and considerable inconvenience is experienced from the drought. In the autumn, the rain falls in great quantities.

The soil of the plains is less fertile, in proportion, than that of the coast, which accounts for the diversity found between the vegetable earths of this island. The earth upon the mountains and hills is brown, light, and fine, and, though but thinly spread over the rocks, is very rich and fertile. The earth in the hollows, plains, or valleys, is argillaceous and thin, but they are fertilized by the soil which the rain washes from the mountains and deposits there. This island, in other respects, is in many parts rich in vegetation.

Wheat, barley, and a small quantity of maize, are the principal grains cultivated in this island. The harvest begins

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about the middle of June. Both red and white wines are made here, and some of each exported. The olive trees grow spontaneously, but the inhabitants make only a small quantity of oil, as they prefer pickling the olives for the table. There is here an abundance of fruit of every kind; oranges, pomegranates, lemons, excellent kernelled fruit, and figs.

You also find mulberries, walnuts, chesnuts, palms, &c. all sorts of delicious and substantial vegetables, beans, peas, kidney beans, asparagus, cucumbers, mushrooms, onions, brocoli, cauliflowers, carrots, parsnips, turnips, wild celery, lettuce, cress, endive, dandelions, &c.; beet, sorrel, parsley, chervil, and other herbs; capers, hysop, mint, thyme, marjoram, sage, wormwood, rosemary, fennel, and other medicinal plants.

The water melons here are extremely fine, as well as the endive. The melons are fit for eating in June, and are very abundant. The honey is reckoned particularly good, and some is exported.

The horses, mules, and asses are estimated at near two thousand; the horned cattle at seven thousand; the sheep, goats, and small animals, at about forty-five thousand; the pigs at nearly ten thousand.

Hares are seldom found here, but there are a great many rabbits and hedge-hogs, which are eaten by the people of Minorca. There are land tortoises, and but little poultry. Birds of different species are very numerous; eagles, falcons, owls, swallows, martins, wood pigeons, and turtle doves, red partridges, quails, thrushes. They also shoot starlings, larks, woodcocks, snipes, wild ducks, &c. &c.

The fish around Minorca is abundant in all seasons, and very good; the coasts swarm with shoals of anchovies; the markets afford a supply of turbots, soles, plaice, maids, barbel, lampreys, congor eels, common eels, sea wolves, dorados, sardina herrings, &c. There are also excellent oysters,

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oysters, cockles, botango (the dried roe of the mullet), lobsters, muscles, crabs, sea porcupines, periwinkles, and all other kinds of shell fish.

The inhabitants of Minorca have no manufacture or fabric, to be employed as articles of exchange in foreign commerce, which would furnish them with many necessaries and more luxuries.

Their export trade consists of a small quantity of cheese, sent into Italy, and in the sale of the surplus of wool which has not been used in the island; these two articles together do not produce more than sixty thousand French livres. The salt, wine, honey, and wax, not kept by the inhabitants for their own consumption, produce an annual sum of from four hundred and ten to four hundred and fifteen thousand French livres, or from about £17,083 to £17,292 sterling.

The island receives from abroad, corn, brandy, rice, sugar, coffee, tobacco, spices, linen, fine cloths, boards, pitch, cordage, &c. and some pieces of furniture. When the English were in possession of Minorca, they enriched it by the money they circulated, and raised provisions to a high price; but the sobriety of the Spaniards has deprived the landholders of these advantages: they have, however, another left, which nothing can take from them; it is the possibility of extending cultivation, and of rendering several objects valuable that have hitherto been neglected.

They might, by attending to the cultivation of olives, better their quality and make good oil, as they are now obliged to draw their supply of that article from Majorca. The cotton tree succeeds perfectly well here; it is only necessary to know how to propagate it. The capers are in great abundance, and grow spontaneously; the inhabitants never gather more of the fruit than is sufficient for their own consumption,

* About 2,500l. sterling.

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the rest is left to rot on the trees, although it might be made an article of foreign commerce. The hemp and flax flourish here, but are not as much attended to as their utility deserves.

The value of saffron, which is not considered as an object, should be taken into the account. It is possible also to increase the cultivation of oranges, lemons, figs, pomegranates, and almonds, which are here of an excellent quality, and if properly taken care of might become a great article of commerce.

Natural History. La Cava Perella, two miles to the south of Ciudadella, is a natural and very interesting grotto; the entrance is narrow, and difficult of access, but it enlarges as you descend; it contains an infinite number of smaller caves; all of them have a communication with the large one; it is composed of stalactites, the colour of sugar candy, and rather transparent, produced by the water which flows unceasingly from the rock, and which is impregnated with vitreous matter. Altogether one might fancy them the columns supporting the grotto; some very regular, with capitals, shafts, and bases. This grotto has a wall formed of the same materials, with various petrified figures.

The subterranean lake. In the neighbourhood of the Cava Perella is a cavern, containing a pool, or species of lake, the waters of which are salt; they must certainly proceed from the sea, though the channel of communication is unknown.

Coral. A large quantity of red coral is found in the sand, near the sea shore. The fishermen frequently bring up, in their nets, large pieces of white coral unbroken. In this part the whole soil is sterile in vegetable productions, but it affords various fossils and shells.

The stella marina arborescens is frequently met with here, though generally injured by being beaten against the rocks.

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The concha veneris and the nautilus are also often found; but the shell of the latter is so fragile, that it frequently breaks upon examining it.

The pinna magna is very common, as splendid in its interior as the mother-of-pearl; it has not its softness; externally it is covered with spikes.

The pinna parva presents, on the contrary, a soft, polished, and brilliant exterior.

The rock crystal is not common, though sometimes found. In the district of Alayor is the glass of Muscovy, as it is called, which incrusts vegetables.

Iron. In many parts of the island, near the surface of the earth, mines of iron ore are found, in flat pieces six, eight, or ten inches in diameter.

Lead. There are mines of lead, the produce of which does not pay for the expence of working them.

Stone. In digging the ground for stone, one is met with which, from its hardness, similar to flint, must be blown up with powder. After this comes a stone fit for cutting; and in continuing to dig in the same quarry a porous stone is discovered, which must be some time exposed to the air to harden previous to its being used.

Guysch and perelle; two sorts of gum, the latter is whiter, more brilliant and brittle. It is used in the island to clarify the wine.

Lime. The lime stone is common, of a grey colour, and very hard. It contains a number of petrified shell fish, and other marks of the deluge. Many large pieces are found in the fields, and, when broken, assist vegetation by the heat they communicate to the land.

Slate. This is of a dark blue colour, mingled with white veins; it is always close, shining, and easily split for use.

Marbles are found of different qualities and colours, but no use is made of them.

Clay. Argillaceous earth is discovered in many parts of Minorca, of a greyish colour, very soft and binding; when

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burnt it takes a pale brown colour; it is used in pottery. There is also a blue and yellow clay, of which they make no use. Tiles are made with the former kind.

Characters, Customs, Manners, Dress, and *Language*. The people of Minorca lead a peaceable life, and, like those of Majorca, smile when they hear of the pleasures of other countries, as they value and esteem none but their own. They are indifferent to the political affairs of Europe, even to those of Spain, and care little under whose dominion they are placed, provided their customs be not violated. The English had imparted to them a degree of activity relative to navigation and cruizes on the sea, because they doubtless placed more confidence in the protection of this maritime nation than in any other; though they never go beyond the Mediterranean. They have very little desire for speculation, and are not addicted to war. They have preserved sufficient address to make use of the sling. Like all the Spaniards, prosperity renders them proud, and emulous; but without that they sink back into their beloved indolence*. They lead retired lives. At one time, the whole island appeared to foreigners like a vast desert; though they are received there with pleasure.

There are some masquerades during the time of the carnival. They dance to the sound of the guittar, or violin. In the summer evenings, the inhabitants of the different streets assemble round a male and female dancer. On St. John's day there are horse, mule, and ass races; the riders are persons of the lower order, who gain prizes, which are given annually. At St. Peter is the sailors' tower; who also have races with sloops and boats, and the first who arrives at the goal receives a reward.

The Minorcans are extremely attached to religious ceremonies, and, when they can, take a part in and perform them

* According to Strabo "The inhabitants of the Balearic islands lived in continual ease, and enjoyed perfect happiness." B. 3.

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with ardour. This is particularly remarkable in their pilgrimages, associations, and processions; that on the day of Corpus Christi is extremely brilliant from the number of men and children who make their appearance in different dresses. The inhabitants, when they die, as throughout Spain, are invested with the religious habit.

The common dress of the men is like that in Majorca; but the women pay more attention to, and display much taste in their appearances, and are not destitute of natural elegance. They wear the rebozillo as a head dress, with corsets, and under petticoats of flowered silk stuff, sometimes worked in gold or silver. The custom is to wear the petticoats very full; the plaits conceal any defect in the figure, and add to the stiffness of the stuffs. The ladies are always elegantly adorned; their ornaments consist of necklaces, ear-rings, bracelets, rings, and chaplets. The peasants wear these also, and add to their rebozillo a large knot of ribbands under the chin, which they call floqué. They never go out without covering their heads with a large hat, or being ornamented with a band of black velvet, the ends of which hang behind. All the women wear a sort of apron, which they gather so full, that it scarcely forms any thing more in front of the petticoat than a straight bandage of close plaits. They make them of different stuffs, as well as the rebozillos. This head-dress was worn in France, from the race of the first kings till the time of Charles the Eighth, and in Spain till that of Philip the First, in 1606, when the Spaniards laid it aside to adopt the mantilla*.

The same language is spoken in Majorca and Minorca.

* Mariana historia de Espana, L. 28, c. 21.

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ACCOUNT OF THE ANTIQUITIES KNOWN IN THE BALEARIC ISLES.

The antiquities of the Balearic isles are divided by Mr. Armstrong (who has written a natural history of the island of Minorca) into three classes; those of remote antiquity; those of the time of the Romans; and those of the time of the Moors. In the first rank he places those vestiges called, by the islanders, The altars of the Gentiles. There is one of these altars in the territory of Alayor; a large and round mass of unhewn stones, heaped together without any cement, forming a cone, round at the top, with a cavity at the base, towards the south, where one cannot enter without stooping, but nothing can be seen within; it is situated on a hill, surrounded by a wall made of large flat stones. Upon the top of the cone is a flat place large enough to contain eight or ten persons; you ascend by a path two feet and a half in width. At some distance from this cone may be observed two stones, the one raised perpendicularly, and the other placed horizontally; beneath is a symbolical figure of the Thaut of the Egyptians. That which is horizontal is sixteen feet long, seven wide, and twenty inches in thickness; the other is perhaps as large; they present no traces of sculpture or inscription. Notwithstanding the elevation of these stones, the moderns have considered them as altars belonging to the Celtic Druids, and are supposed to have been gotten to the top by some scaffolding.

The Balearic isles also contain vestiges of those ancient buildings, called Cyclopéennes.

These islands have proved rich in medals. Nearly five hundred in gold and silver have been found in the territory of Santagni, forming a collection from the time of Galba to the latest emperors.

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Minorca has produced Phœnician, Macedonian, Carthaginian, Celtiberian, Grecian, Roman, and Spanish medals, &c. &c. in gold, silver, and large and small bronze. The latter were so numerous, during the reigns of Constantine the Great and his family, that they were always found, as well as the Roman asses, of different weights and sizes.

The Arabian medals found in the Balearic islands were almost all of very fine silver, and for this reason the greatest part have been melted, and but few remain.

In Minorca they have discovered a small Gothic bronze coin. The impression is a crowned head in the centre of a circle, with these words, Alphonsus rex. They believe it to belong to the end of the thirteenth century.

They have discovered, in this and the other islands, remains of ancient sepulchres, and some small but coarse bronze figures, which have given rise to various conjectures; a number of vases, sepulchral lamps, funeral urns, lacrymatories, composed of a reddish earth; and also many Roman inscriptions, so injured by time as not to be decyphered. There are also some Arabian antiquities, the characters of which are effaced.

In fine, one sees at Majorca the remains of edifices, in a good state of preservation, constructed by the Moors; amongst others the ruins of a pleasure house at Eusabia; and at Minorca the remains of a castle upon Mount St. Agatha.

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PITYUSE ISLES.

IVIÇA, OR IBIÇA.

THE island of Iviça, or Ibiça (Ebusus), is the largest of the Pityuse islands. This name comes, according to Ptolemy, Strabo, and Pomponius Mela, from the Greek word πιτυς, a pine, (πιτυουσα, abounding in pines). Iviça is about fifteen leagues and one-third from the island of Majorca, which lies to the north-east. It is about eighteen leagues from Cabo Martin, on the coast of Spain, or the Punta del Imperador,* and at about forty-six leagues from cape Tenez, on the coast of Africa. It is commonly said to be seven leagues long, and about four and a half broad in certain places, and twenty-two leagues in circumference. It is high and covered with mountains, whose verdant declivities present an agreeable and picturesque prospect from the sea. The earth is

* Near Denia and Altea, in the kingdom of Valencia. The coast which is before Xabea forms a very long promontary. The ancients called it by turns Artemisium, Tenebrium, and Ferraria. The first name on account of the most considerable town in the neighbourhood, and the two others relating to the iron mines found near this cape. The first name still exists among the natives of this coast of Spain under that of Artemus. Sailors of other countries called this promontary Cape Martin and Emperor's Point.

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adapted to every kind of culture. This isle is divided into five parts, or quartones; these are the Plain of the city, St. Eulalia, Balanzar, Pormany, and the Salines.

Iviça is the capital city; it has a good port, situated to the south-east, below a small hill, under the cannon of the fortress constructed in the time of Charles the Fifth. Some of the ancient authors ascribe the foundation of this city to the Phœnicians, six hundred and sixty-three years before the Christian era. It was called Pityusa, because it is covered with pines and firs. One colony was founded there called Ebusas. Others attribute it to the Carthaginians, and say it was built seventy years after the foundation of Carthage. They support this opinion from the name Ebusus, Erese, or Ebusa, signifying in the Punic language and. The Romans also had it in their possession, and it has since fallen into that of the Moors; but, under don John, Prince of Aragon, the archbishop of Tarragona sent some troops thither to expel the Africans; and it has since then remained under the spiritual jurisdiction of this city.

The town of Ivica is situated on a mountain; it is honoured with the title of a bishopric. It is likewise the seat of government. There is one cathedral, six churches, as many monasteries as parishes, one hospital, several chapels, and some barracks. The principal parish church is called by the name of Santa Maria Major. It is well built, and has a rector, and thirty-five beneficiaries. A monastery of the order of St. Dominic, where there are many monks, is worthy of remark; also a convent of Augustin nuns of San Christobal; a chapel royal of the ancient house and college of Jesuits; two other chapels, one of which belongs to the Tissarands. The hospital is without any established funds. This town is very well fortified. There are two entrances, one is called the New Gate, and the other the Principal. The suburbs, commanded by the cannon of the town, contain

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tain one church, known by the name of St. Elmo, well-filled with sailors, who present the fourth part of their profits at it.

The port of Iviça, although spoiled by the mud, is of sufficient size to contain a squadron; it is the largest, most convenient, and best sheltered in the island. The north-east wind is the only one from which it is not protected. The English took this port in the year 1706, but the Spaniards have again obtained possession of it.

The governor has an assessor, and some other persons, with whose assistance he takes cognizance of all civil, criminal and military matters, from whence the appeal lies to the captain-general of Majorca. Including the inhabitants of the Aravallas, or suburb, the population may amount to three thousand six hundred souls, and they reckon eight hundred families.

The plain of the town occupies a space of about a league and a half, and contains two hundred houses, separated into little hamlets, the population of which may be estimated at about nine hundred inhabitants. This quarter has a principal town. The city furnishes a sort of militia, consisting of about a hundred and twenty men, for the safety of the district, under the command of a captain. The canton presents, on all sides, well cultivated gardens and vineyards.

The district of St. Eulalia has a territory of about four leagues in extent, bordering on those of Balanzar and Iviça, and lies to the north-east of the latter. The number of houses is at least seven hundred, scattered here and there without forming towns, villages, or hamlets. They are inhabited by four thousand persons, divided into two parishes. This department furnishes a contingent of seven hundred men for the security of the island. A river, bearing the name of the Saint, flows at the foot of the mountain, where the spire of the church of St. Eulalia rises. The other parish is called St. John's.

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The territory of the district of Balanzar extends over about three leagues, and joins those of Iviça, St. Eulalia, and Pormany. The houses are reckoned at about four hundred, and the inhabitants may amount to two thousand two hundred. The parish church is dedicated to St. Michael. The contingent for the safeguard of the island consists of three hundred men. On the coast is situated the creek of Balanzar, near a mile in length. At the end is the little port of San Michela, but it can only admit small vessels. This port is at the mouth of two rivulets, the sources of which are upwards of a league in the interior.

The district of Pormany has a territory four leagues in length, extending from Puig-nono as far as Cabo-bodella, or Calells, and is bounded by Balanzar, Salines, and Iviça. The soil is not level, but presents a fertile plain, with about four hundred and fifty houses, containing at least two thousand inhabitants, and furnishing a contingent of three hundred and fifty men. The principal church is consecrated to St. Antony. The turret, or steeple, commands the port, and has two pieces of cannon and artillery men. The other church is dedicated to St. Joseph.

The district of Salines, or las Salinas. This quarter takes its name from the salt found there, and is bounded by the districts of Pormany and Iviça. It is only two leagues in extent. They reckon the houses at one hundred and fifty, and the population at nine hundred persons. The contingent consists of a company of two hundred men. In this canton, you see a beautiful plain, where the parish church of St. George is situated.

On the opposite side of the coast of Iviça stands Porto Magno, or Pormany, likewise called port St. Antony; it is situated in the district or department of that name. The mouth is difficult for navigation, on account of the isles Cunilleras, by which it is covered; but there is room for a squadron to lie there, though, during the winter season, it

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is only fit for small vessels, which can moor at the end, where the anchorage is good.

The islanders of Iviça have criminal, as well as civil laws, peculiar to themselves. The assessor royal, who is at the head of the administration of justice, cannot make any decree by himself, but must join with him two other judges, and as many as six jurors, chosen indiscriminately through the island, to pronounce sentence; and the parties have a right of appeal to a delegated judge, who is an inhabitant of the country, and elected to this office. He, together with the jurymen named by the officer of government, makes a new decree.

ISLE OF FROMENTERA.

The isle of Fromentera is the second of the Pityuse islands; it is situated to the south of Iviça; it is separated from the coast, or cape Falco, by a mere channel, a league and a quarter in breadth. The ancients called it Pityuse Minor. The moderns are of opinion, that its present name is derived from the quantity of corn which it produces. The longest part of this island is from east to west, and is full three leagues in extent, and from two leagues to a quarter of a league in breadth.

The population consists of two hundred persons, whose houses are dispersed in the country and along the coast.

This island supplies wood and excellent stone; and there are several wells of good water.

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It has been thought, from the remains of some ruins, that the Romans might formerly have had a town here; but, if so, the remembrance must have been lost, as the geographers represent this island to have been uninhabited on account of the serpents and other reptiles with which it was infested. They confound it with the Ophiusa or Ophinza of the ancients, called by the Romans Colubraria, and to which the moderns have given the name of Moncalobrer, (Columbrates), which is on the coast of the kingdom of Valencia. The island of Iviça, on the contrary, is said to possess the virtue of killing all the serpents and other venomous reptiles; and, as the island of Fromentara is only a separation effected in the course of ages, it may very probably enjoy the same faculty.

A number of rocks and islands surround the two principal Pityuse isles; only the most remarkable are pointed out. The three Conejeras, to the west, that is, the great Conejera, extending near half a league on a gradual rise; the Bosqua, half the extent of the former, but more lofty; and Esparta, a little larger than the second, less than the first, and the highest of the two. These isles, though of considerable extent, are destitute of habitations. The inhabitants of the neighbouring isles sometimes send their flocks there to feed, but are too much afraid of their being carried away by the pirates

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of the States of Barbary, who often conceal themselves in the hollows and caverns in the vicinity, which serve as places of retreat for them.

Near the isle of Iviça, and on the side of the port, are three small islands, called the Gates of Iviça; two of them are named the Black Islands, and the other Esponga.

The isle of Grossa is situated beyond the two mouths of the port of Iviça. Towards the east are the islands of Santa Eulalia y de Arabi; one of them is considerable, further out is the island Tacamago, which is about a quarter of a league in length. The isle of Morada is very high, lying on the east of cape St. Michael, at no great distance from it.

The isles of Margueritas, one of which is large and near Pic Nono, which advances into the sea, in the form of a cone, covered with trees. The Bleda Mayor, and the Bleda Plana, &c. &c.

Towers are erected on different points of the coast of Iviça, to discover what passes at a distance on the sea, and make the necessary signals. The principal are a league and a half from Cabo Falcon: the tower of the gates; a mile and a quarter from that is the tower of Sal Roxa: these two towers are about a league and a half from the castle of Iyiça; another tower stands beyond the point of Ratayada; a signal tower

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tower is erected on the green point. There are likewise a number of towers to give the alarm to the inhabitants, in case of danger, in the territory of the eastern point of Portinache, and in the bay of St. Michael.

Agriculture and Commerce. The inhabitants of Iviça and the Pityuse isles, finding the principal productions necessary to life in their own country, attend but little to commerce. Their climate is mild and healthy; in the winter season the cold is not severe, and in summer the sea-breezes cool the air; the climate is delightful, and no venomous animal is found in the islands.

The land is mountainous, well wooded, and adapted to all sorts of husbandry. The cultivation of olives, vines, and corn, is very favourable; the natural richness of the country satisfies the inhabitants, who live happy and tranquil.

These isles produce a much greater quantity of corn, oil, and wine, than is sufficient for the consumption of the inhabitants. The flocks and herds of large and small cattle are numerous enough to supply all their wants; the pasturages are fine, and sporting very productive. In the isle of Fromentera a species of pheasant is found, remarkable on account of the beauty and variety of its plumage; the coast furnishes an abundance of excellent fish.

Salt is collected at the end of August, to the amount of three hundred and sixty-five thousand pounds weight, which is exported in foreign bottoms, as well as a small quantity of wool. This is almost the whole of the exterior commerce of Iviça, for the exportation of corn, oil, and fruits, is prohibited; so that in years of plenty they lose the surplus of their consumption, with which they might supply the Majorcans, who are sometimes obliged to procure corn from Africa. The inhabitants of the Pityuse islands, in spite of the richness and abundance of the soil, almost all live in a sort of indigence.

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Character, Dress, Manners, &c. The Iviçans have the reputation of bravery, and making good seamen, but the greater part of them are merely masters of barks, engaged in short expeditions on private speculations for transporting fish and provisions. In other respects these islanders have nearly the same habits as the inhabitants of the Balearic Islands, at the head of which we must mention indolence.

The rebozillos of the women of Iviça are generally yellow, some are white, of a finer or coarser quality, but yellow is preferred; they are made of a kind of coloured cloth; it is astonishing, in so warm a country, to see so many made of coarse cloth; the hair is not fastened, but hangs loose on the back.

The language of the inhabitants is the same as that spoke in the Balearic Islands, except some difference of dialect, as in every other country; it is seldom any one is found who understands Spanish.

There are here, as in the other islands, a great deal of devotion, a number of holidays, and assemblies, and some amusements.

The islanders are courageous; they often display proofs of their valour on the pirates of the coast of Barbary, who infest their shores. In general they are of middling stature, their complexion is swarthy, their eyes are lively, and they are very active. The people here are ignorant; their houses are without any ornament, either within or without; those who are in possession of considerable fortunes now begin to procure more conveniences, and they import some furniture from Spain and Majorca.

In the isle of Iviça there are no public and frequented roads, excepting those leading to the principal towns of the Quartones, and some others conducting to the different parts of the coast, where the ships take in their cargoes of salt.

FINIS.

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